



First-time buyers would have saved 20 per cent

STARTER HOME SCHEME IS AXED

Report by Richard Guttridge

A £9.8 MILLION council starter home scheme, which was set to help young people in Dudley onto the housing ladder, has been scrapped.

Dudley Council has blamed the Government for the collapse of the programme, which aimed to create cheaper housing on the sites of former council buildings.

A total of 62 starter homes were going to be made available as part of a scheme to build on the sites of the former Mere Centre in Stourbridge, Amblecote House care home in Brettell Lane, Turner House in Wren's Nest and the old St Thomas' Network in Beechwood Road.

Bosses say the 'required legislation' for the scheme has not yet been passed by the Government and the homes will instead be sold at market value.

The plan had been hailed by council leader Councillor Patrick Harley when it was announced last year, who said the authority had 'seized the opportunity' to support people who want to buy their first home but are forced out of the market due to high prices. First-time buyers aged 24 to 39 would have saved 20 per cent on the value of a house under the scheme.

Affordable

Council chiefs said as the scheme had not been brought in by Parliament, and was unlikely to any time soon, the Dudley scheme could not go ahead.

Dudley Council was given £625,000 from the Homes and Communities Agency, which launched the starter homes initiative, to demolish the buildings and build the homes.

Bosses say homes will still be built, of which 25 per cent will be 'affordable' in order to comply with current planning conditions. A total of 59 homes will be sold at market value and 20 affordable properties made available for rent.

Councillor Laura Taylor, cabinet member for housing, said: "This decision refines what we had originally planned. We will build on the experience we have gained in recent years from developing quality council homes. We are confident we can deliver the homes that people want at affordable prices."

OH SHE DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE ZOOSIDE



Bucket and spade weather? Doreen Tipton unveils the new beach, 'Ow Bin Ya' Sands, which is at Dudley Zoo all summer

POPULAR Black Country character Doreen Tipton launched the bostin' new beach at Dudley Zoo – just in time for one of the wettest Spring Bank Holiday weekends for years. However, there were high hopes that rising temperatures following the weekend's thunder storms and downpours would see the site

getting plenty of use in the sunshine – although the half-term forecast remains mixed.

Doreen Tipton officially opened the 50ft by 30ft beach, 'Ow Bin Ya Sands, which will be in place throughout the summer.

Complete with 80 tonnes of sand, piles of buckets and spades, two giant deckchairs and

plenty of picnic tables, the beach has been created near the sensory garden, just below the castle.

Seaside-style children's entertainment will also be held at the Castle Hill attraction's summer beach. They have even got special edition 'Ow Bin Ya Sands' rock for sale.

WEATHER

Flood tragedy after region hit by deluge

THE Black Country and Birmingham were hit by freak floods that caused havoc over the Bank Holiday weekend.

The region is continuing to count the cost of the flash flooding, which saw a month's rainfall in just one hour in Edgbaston.

An elderly man died in the floods in Walsall when his van was caught in water under a bridge.

Water was waist-deep in parts of south Birmingham and one route impassible due to water five feet deep. Tipton was also hit by a deluge.

● Swamped: Picture – page 3

HEALTH

A&E team helps to cut pressures

A SOCIAL care team based in A&E is helping ease the pressure on hospital services, figures have revealed.

In September last year, Dudley Council set up a new emergency response team to work in the A&E at Russells Hall Hospital. It is one of a raft of measures introduced since the Government awarded the authority £13.9 million as part of the national £2 billion Improved Better Care Fund last year.

FOOTBALL

Historic Albion medal up for sale

A PIECE of West Bromwich Albion history is going under the hammer at Dudley auctioneers Aston's on Thursday, June 7.

It is the Football League Champions 1919-20 winner's gold medal that belonged to Joe Smith, who played nearly 500 games for the Baggies and Birmingham City, and won two England caps. When a similar medal that belonged to skipper Jesse Pennington came up for auction last year it fetched £24,000.

INSIDE VETERANS TO BE HONOURED



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Drive-by shooting killer jailed for life



Killer Danielle Williams

A MAN from Dudley has been jailed for life after gunning down an innocent bystander in a drive-by shooting.

Darielle Williams, aged 23, of Attingham Drive, opened fire with a sub-machine gun from a silver Volkswagen Golf outside a shop in Birmingham.

Victim Mekel Sterling found himself in the 'wrong place at the wrong time', Birmingham Crown Court heard.

Mr Sterling, known locally as Skelly, was outside the shop on Great Hampton Row when shots were fired. He is not thought to have been the target.

He was struck in the chest and stag-

gered into the store for help but the 36-year-old father could not be saved and died in hospital.

The shooting is thought to have been a revenge attack after shots were fired at a group of men from a Ford Kuga outside a fast food restaurant on Dudley Road the day before.

Driver

Williams was jailed for at least 33 years, along with driver Kayne Robinson, of Roseberry Street, Winson Green, after both were found guilty of murder.

Detective Chief Inspector Edward

Foster, from West Midlands Police's Homicide Unit, said: "Sadly Mekel found himself caught up in something not of his own making and paid the ultimate price. He will not see his children grow into adulthood."

Jacob Brown, 25 from Handsworth, was cleared. Jurors were unable to reach verdicts on murder charges facing Devonte May, 24 from Handsworth and 19-year-old Geary Barnet, from Winson Green. They pleaded not guilty to murder but guilty to assisting an offender. They were jailed for three years and two-and-a-half years respectively.

'Ghost shift' fraud cost NHS more than £70k

A HEALTH worker involved in a plot that defrauded the National Health Service (NHS) out of nearly £73,000 has been jailed.

Rilindis Bessem, of Brettal Lane, Brierley Hill, was persuaded by Charles Elad, of Westwood Close, Milton Keynes, to join his 'ghost shifts' fraud.

Bessem was among four agency workers who submitted fraudulent timesheets to a recruitment agency, which was unaware of the fraud. The workers were paid for the unworked shift and the agency then unknowingly invoiced the various trusts for the shifts.

Elad, aged 46, was working as a recruitment officer for ID Medical at the time. Each of the five workers was convicted of separate fraud conspiracies with Elad. His wife, Tanyi Elad, was convicted of a money laundering offence after her bank account was used.

The total loss to the NHS was £72,991.11, and various NHS hospitals in England were targeted, including Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Scunthorpe General, Royal Blackburn, and Darling-

Hide

Once an agency worker had been paid for the 'ghost shifts', Elad would then request they make a payment to him, using his wife's bank account to hide the transactions.

Bessem, 39, who had denied one count of conspiracy to commit fraud by false representation, was convicted by jury and received a six-month prison sentence. Elad received three years' imprisonment. He had denied five counts of conspiracy to commit fraud by false representation and one count of fraud.

Tanyi Esekang Elad, 38, denied converting criminal property but was convicted by the jury. She received a four month prison sentence, suspended for two years.

They were all sentenced at Kingston-upon-Hull Crown Court on May 18.

The NHS Counter Fraud Authority will now continue under the Proceeds of Crime Act to recover the money lost to the NHS.

College chosen for new T-level courses

DUDLEY College of Technology will be one of the first in the UK to introduce the new T-level exam courses.

The college on The Broadway is among four schools and colleges in the Black Country to have been named as the first T-level providers.

The courses are dubbed the greatest shake-up of technical education for 70 years. The T-levels are technical qualifications at A-level standard. The course content will be created by panels of employers with a three-month compulsory industry placements.

The T-levels, which are technical qualifications at A-level standard, will be taught at Dudley College of Technology, Sandwell Academy, Walsall College and Walsall Studio School.

They are among just 10 further education providers across the Midlands chosen to taken part in the scheme. Across the country, 52 schools and colleges have been named as the first T-level providers.

The first three subjects will be construction, digital, and education and childcare, which will be taught from September 2020.

Engineering

A further 22 courses being rolled out in stages from 2021, with courses covering sectors such as finance and accounting, engineering and manufacturing, and creative and design.

Neil Thomas, principal of Dudley College of Technology said: "We are excited about the impact that T-levels will have in the future.

"Colleges have an important role to play in supporting the productivity of the regions they serve by providing the technically skilled workforce needed by local employers.

"We look forward to working with partners to introduce these qualifications and further strengthen the links between education and industry."

Fizzogs pucker up for day centre visit



A cuppa and a kiss - The Fizzogs with Terry Johnson at the Brett Young Dementia Gateway

DUDLEY'S Dancing Grannies popped into a day care centre for a cuppa and a little boogie to mark national Dementia Action Week.

Internet sensations the Fizzogs performed for people with dementia and their carers, friends and families at the Dudley Council-run Brett Young Dementia Gateway

in Old Hawne Lane, Halesowen. The trio danced their way around the centre, sharing laughter with those they met. Their performance was one of a number of activities to celebrate the national campaign.

Other activities include a tea party, an Elvis Presley tribute, musical mobility and flower arranging.

Councillor Nicolas Barlow, member for adult social care, said: "People with dementia responded really well to the entertainment and many were up dancing."

Dudley Council runs dementia gateways at the Brett Young Centre and the Crystal Gateway in Brierley Hill.

Focus on service

A BLACK Country NHS Trust is inviting the public to find out more about their mental health services.

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust staff at The Elms Centre Slade Road, Halesowen, will open their doors on Monday (June 4), from 10am until 4pm.

The event is open to young people, families and professionals that work with children and young people. For more information contact susan.thomas35@nhs.net

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Convicted paedophile imam still on the run

A PAEDOPHILE religious leader who evaded justice by telling lies about his health and fleeing to Bangladesh during his trial is still wanted by police, more than 18 months after absconding.

Hafiz Rahman, who preyed on two young girls at a Black Country mosque in the 1980s, fled after claiming he was to ill to attend court.

Rahman, of Ballard Road, Netherton, was found guilty of five charges of indecent assault in October 2016.

He was sentenced to 11-and-a-half years in prison in his absence but by then had boarded a flight to Bangladesh.

He was the imam at Queens Cross mosque in Cradley Heath and was convicted of historic crimes against the girls, who he was supposed to be giving religious instruction.

Hopes of his capture were raised last year when files were passed to extradition experts but a West Midlands Police spokesman confirmed that he is still wanted almost 20 months after his escape.

A spokesman for the police force, said: "Inquiries are still on-going - he's still wanted."

One of his victims has said that she believes he may never be brought to justice. Of the court case and conviction, she said: "It was a bittersweet victory. Others now know what he was doing but I haven't got closure."

Drug crook fails to get jail term cut

A DRUG dealer from Dudley who was involved in a £1.5 million cocaine and heroin plot has failed to get his jail term cut on appeal.

Lea Gavin Brown, 32, of Tanfield Avenue, Blowers Green, was jailed for 16 years on November 10. Brown's catalogue of crime began in 2014 when found with crack cocaine and cannabis. In 2016 he was spotted parked near a school and hit a police vehicle as he sped away. Brown was last year convicted of conspiracy to supply cocaine and heroin. Lawyers argued his sentence was too tough but Judge Anuja Dhir, sitting with two other judges, dismissed the appeal saying: "The judge was obliged to impose a total sentence which reflected all of Brown's offending."

Home plan at pub

FORMER pub the Plough Inn, in Church Street, Brierley Hill could be transformed into a six-bed, multiple occupancy with associated amenity facilities, under new plans submitted to Dudley Council.

Help for family who lost everything in fire



Just the walls remain. Picture: @StaffsFire

A FAMILY who lost everything when their house burned down say they are 'overwhelmed' with the generosity of neighbours and friends.

The 'shell' of a home and two charred cars is all that remains of a family-of-five's possessions. But just two days on from the fire at Huntsmans Walk in Kinver, neighbours and friends have rallied round to raise more than £1,200 for the family.

Since the incident shortly after midnight on Thursday, several organisations started fundraising for Michelle Goodwin, aged 43, Stuart

Jones, 50, and their three children, Kian, 14, Anece, 13, and Zak, nine.

More than £1,200 has been raised by Harleys Smokehouse Barbecue Restaurant in Dunsley Road, Kinver, along with an undisclosed amount from the family's local post office, Potter's Cross Stores in White Hill.

Miss Goodwin said: "We are still in shock. It is crazy knowing that you will not be able to go back home and that everything you had is lost."

"There have been donations here, there and everywhere. I was too exhausted to look at Facebook but

my friends have told me about the amount of people who have set up fundraising pages and given their money to help us.

"The post office have got lots of clothes and money for us plus my son's friend has given him clothes and £200. I am absolutely overwhelmed."

Due to the extent of the damage investigators have not been able to establish an exact cause of the fire but the family believe it was an electrical fault in their sauna.

The ruins of the house are to be demolished.

Camera vans catching hundreds of speeders

MOBILE speed cameras caught almost 1,500 motorists in Dudley in the last year.

Marked enforcement vans recorded speeding drivers at 14 locations. In total, 1,486 tickets were issued in 2017.

It comes five years after all static 'housed' speed cameras were turned off.

Most tickets were issued on the A4123 Birmingham New Road, between the Burnt Tree Island and Tipton Road, where 245 motorists were caught on the northbound and 25 on the southbound.

That stretch of road is in Castle and Priory ward. Councillor Ken Finch, a representative of that ward on Dudley Council, said: "I support the use of anything that could save lives on our roads. Unfortunately in my ward we are burdened with the Birmingham New Road and Priory Road. Both are used as a race track by some drivers. I hope the cameras catching people will slow them down."

On Oakham Road in Kates Hill, Dudley, 163 motorists were caught, and on the A449 Kidderminster Road in Kingswinford, 157. This was followed by 147 on St Peter's Road in Netherton, 143 on the B4043 Manor Lane in Halesowen and 137 on the A458 Halesowen Road, also in Halesowen, near Narrow Lane.

Fine

In Saltwells Road in Netherton, 133 drivers were caught, in Milking Bank, Dudley, 91, the A461 Stourbridge Road in Brierley Hill, near Terrace Street, 65, and on Spies Lane in Halesowen, between Kent Road and Ridgeway Avenue, 63.

On the A457 Tipton Road in Sedgley, between Gate Street and Park Road, 52 were caught, on the A456 Manor Way in Halesowen between Grange Road Island and Sandvik Engineering, 42 were snared and in Bourne Street in Dudley, 23.

Drivers receive a minimum fine of £100 and three penalty points if caught speeding. West Midlands Police use 160 mobile camera sites and talks are now under way over bringing in average speed cameras in the Black Country.

Man dies as region hit by floods



Floodwaters rise to threaten a shop in Toll End Road in Tipton. Picture:@kennettphoto

A MAN died after his van was swamped by water following flash flooding across the Black Country.

The tragedy occurred amid torrential downpours that swept across the region over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Police confirmed a motorist in his 80s had died in the early hours

of Monday in Lichfield Road, Rushall. A resident and council worker had desperately tried to rescue the man, diving into floodwater at around 2am and trying to break the van window.

However, the man was taken to hospital and pronounced dead a short time later.

Routes by Birchley Island in Oldbury saw major disruption, including on Wolverhampton Road in both directions. Floodwater swamped routes in Tipton, including Walker Street and Toll End Road and Birmingham was badly hit, including parts of Harborne and Edgbaston.

NEWS IN BRIEF

High-rise blocks safe says council

DUDLEY Council's housing chief has confirmed no high-rise blocks in the borough will need altering in the wake of the Grenfell Tower disaster, which claimed 72 lives. The Government has pledged £400 million to help remove dangerous cladding.

Councillor Laura Taylor, cabinet member for housing, said: "We do not have cladding on any of our 21 high-rise blocks, and as such we have no need to apply as a council for cash from this new Government fund. We have been working with the fire service to complete fire audits on all of our blocks, and carry out regular technical checks."

Crews fight major blaze at scrapyards

FIFTEEN firefighters helped tackle a major fire at a scrapyards in the Black Country.

Crews from Dudley, Brierley Hill and Tipton were called to the scrap metal blaze in Oak Lane, Kingswinford. The incident occurred at around 5.30pm on Wednesday (May 23) and was tackled by fire crews using hose reels and a main jet. It took around three hours for the crews to bring the blaze under control.

A West Midlands Fire Service spokesman said: "It appears to have been accidental."

Dancing pupils helped hospice

YOUNGSTERS from a school have raised more than £7,000 for Mary Stevens Hospice through a danceathon.

Pupils and staff at Peter's Hill Primary, in Brierley Hill, held an all-day danceathon to celebrate International Dance Day, which was created to bring people together across cultural, political and ethnic barriers.

The £7,200 raised during the event is enough to pay for Mary Stevens Hospice to run for a whole day, covering everything from tea bags to their 22 charity shops across the West Midlands

Brewery's new tap room bar to open

A GROWING brewery and pub chain has announced an opening date for a new bar.

Lye-based Sadler's Ales is creating up to eight jobs with the Sadler's Tap Room in Hagley Road West, Quinton, on June 7. Former shop premises have been converted to create a bar that will offer a full range of the beers produced at the company's brewery on Conyers Trading Estate in Station Drive and serve street food.

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11pc of weapons crime ends in jail

CRIMINALS in the West Midlands convicted for weapons possession were more likely to be given a community order than a prison sentence of more than a year, new figures show. According to the Ministry of Justice, 91 out of the 799 of people convicted for possession of guns or knives across the region last year were handed jail time of 12 months or more. While this represents only 11 per cent of those convicted, over the same period 235 offenders (30 per cent) were given community orders. Just 35 criminals caught with weapons (four per cent) were jailed for four years or more.

Severn Trent to invest £100m

WATER company Severn Trent, which serves millions of customers across the Midlands, has unveiled a £100 million investment drive. It comes as the business confirmed its turnover for the year to March 31, increased to £1.69 billion, up from £1.63bn in 2017, while pre-tax profits also rose from £520.1m to £541m. The firm said that the £100m investment, which has been generated from savings, would go towards a number of initiatives. This includes 20,000 extra pressure monitors in its network of pipes, which means that leaks and bursts can be spotted more quickly.

Contactless paying is proving popular

THE West Midlands has the joint highest level of banking customers with a contactless card. A study from UK Finance, the trade body representing the banking sector, put it at 81 per cent, level with the North East. Almost two-thirds (64 per cent) of banking customers in the region regularly use their card to make contactless payments – the highest proportion in the country. UK Finance looked at how technology and innovation are transforming retail banking.

Knitted poppies to cascade at a farm

A CASCADE of knitted poppies is planned at a country park to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. The aim at Northcote Farm in Wolverhampton, is to have the display of red woollen poppies on display in time for the summer solstice on June 21. Poppies can be handed in to the Friends of Northcote base at Underhill Lane or to the farm manager.

Police called to jobs up to 12 times a day

POLICE are being called out up to 12 times a day to deal with jobs and other anti-social behaviour in Dudley. There were 9,000 cases of anti-social behaviour in Dudley in just two years – an incident every two hours. Council bosses have now hit out at the nuisance behaviour, which they said puts an added strain on already stretched police resources. Data obtained through a Freedom

of Information request to West Midlands Police showed 4,701 incidents of anti-social behaviour were reported in 2015/16, while 4,359 were reported in 2016/17. The data revealed incidents spiked between the hours of 4pm and 8am Monday to Friday, with 2,147 separate instances reported in 2016/17. While 810 were reported between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

In the Dudley borough, on Saturdays and Sundays 1,726 incidents were reported in 2015/16 and 1,402 in 2016/17. Council leader, Councillor Patrick Harley, said: "I do think it is a strain on police. Anti-social behaviour is often not treated seriously enough. Quite often the police and council only get involved in the issues when complainants have suffered with

weeks, months or years of problems." Chief Superintendent Richard Fisher said: "We take reports of anti-social behaviour seriously and actively encourage people to report any concerns to us. Calls regarding anti-social behaviour have remained steady over the last six years since we simplified the recording process in July 2012. There have been no significant changes in Dudley."

Collapse of Carillion: Concern on suppliers

THE collapse of Carillion has raised 'significant concerns' about the Government's relationship with major suppliers, and the potential impact on the delivery of important public services, an MPs' report says. The Public Accounts Committee published Government risk assessments of its suppliers, taking into account stock market performance and financial statements. Wolverhampton-based Carillion had been given a risk rating of amber for months owing to its performance on contracts with the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Justice, but it was not until after the company issued a profit warning last July that the Government downgraded it to red. "It appears the Government was not aware of Carillion's financial distress until this point," said the report.

Secrecy

"In November 2017, officials recommended a provisional black rating for Carillion. However, following representations from the company, the Cabinet Office did not confirm the designation. Carillion collapsed less than two months later." Meg Hillier, who chairs the committee, said secrecy surrounded large Government contracts to deliver public projects and services. "The strategic supplier risk assessments provide an insight into the relationship between Government and suppliers and give rise to many questions we want to pursue." The committee is to hold an inquiry into concerns raised by the papers relating to suppliers with a risk rating of amber, red or black.

Guinness record dream for the floating catwalk

By Pippa Armstrong

FAMOUS faces joined 30 professional models and some 120 guests to witness a Guinness world record attempt for the longest floating catwalk.

A Wolverhampton-based model agency is behind the bid, now waiting to hear if it has a place in the Guinness Book of Records. Dream Street Models, which was based in Walsall but is now at Hilton Hall in Essington, had waited 28 weeks to get approval from Guinness for the attempt. The journey began in Stourport and saw the catwalk on a boat floating down the River Severn – considered to be the UK's longest river at 220 miles. A two-hour fashion show attracted such faces as X Factor stars Stevi Ritchie and Chloe Jasmine as well as a performance from 90s Icelandic pop singer Alda Bjork Olafsdottir who has sold five million records worldwide.

Platform

The event showcased designs from all over the UK – high street to couture fashion. The backstage team included the Bryanna Angel make-up artist as seen in Vogue and Julian Fiddimore's Reveal who manage the elite beauty queens in the UK, along with top hairstylist Hair by Harps. Dream Street Models founder Chloe Avon said: "I am happy to be able to provide a platform for designers to be seen whilst giving models the opportunity to walk in a large production." She expects to find out within the next fortnight whether they achieved a world record. Dream Street is getting a reputation for unusual fashion venues. Last September it held a fashion show at Blithbury Reindeer Lodge in Rugeley. The next show will take place on a moving train at Chasewater Railway in Burntwood on July 1.



Hold tight – Icelandic singer Alda entertains
Picture by Cloud11 Photography



X Factor star Chloe Jasmine.
Picture David Sutton Photography



Evening look – crowds look on as another model takes to the floating catwalk



All aboard – the catwalk record attempt attracted hundreds of people

Dance festival to push boundaries

THE month-long Birmingham International Dance Festival gets under way tomorrow (Friday), involving several venues in the city. Organised by DanceXchange, the festival will offer a diverse programme emphasising choreography that pushes the boundaries and also dance in the digital age. As well as performances, there will be professional and dance industry events, debates and workshops. Victoria Square will be the focus for several events including tomorrow's Morning Gloryville event combining a dance party and exercise. Venues include Birmingham Rep, New Alexandra Theatre, MAC and Birmingham Hippodrome's Patrick Studio. Visit www.bidf.co.uk for the latest information about the festival.

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Broken Or Damaged Windows? Faulty Locks, Handles, Hinges! f t

Rental bikes will roll out across region this summer

THE first fleet of rental bikes will appear in the West Midlands over the summer, it has been revealed. Nextbike is to roll out 5,000 bikes along with connecting parking hubs over the next two years. The first 100 will be introduced at University of Birmingham in the coming months. This will be followed by 900 in Wolverhampton from September.

Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall will each get 300 this autumn. It has not yet been decided where the docking stations will go but cities and towns get one station to around every 16 bikes.

Nextbike was picked to run the bike concession by Transport for West Midlands. The move will create 50 jobs in the West Midlands.

Julian Scriven, director of Nextbike, said: "Nextbike will not only help deliver a cost-effective and environmentally-conscious way of getting around, it will bring a lot of additional benefits, such as less traffic and improved health."

It will cost 50p to use a bike for 30 minutes. Subscription packages will be available for £30-a-year with the first 30 minutes of every journey free, then 25p for each 30 minutes after.

The bikes will have eight gears. They will be similar to London's so-called Boris Bikes, named after former mayor Boris Johnson, who introduced them.

Teenager has died after car crash

AN 18-year-old has died after a crash which saw a car flip onto its roof in Upper Gornal, police have confirmed. The teenager, named locally as Ryan Wainwright, died following the crash on Clarence Street, in the early hours of May 20.

Firefighters also helped two other men from the car. A woman managed to get out herself before emergency services arrived.

Tribute messages and flowers have been left at the scene.

One read: "You will always be remembered, always put a smile on everyone's face. RIP Ryan Wainwright." Another read: "Words can't describe how heartbroken I am."

Police said investigations are currently ongoing.

Wedding venue

HAGLEY Hall, near Stourbridge, hosts a free admission wedding open morning on Saturday from 9am to noon, when couples can view the venue and talk to the hall's wedding advisor. Book first on 01562 887290.

Dedicated Iain's work is extra special



Special Constable Iain Hulbert

STUDYING nursing by day and stopping suspected drug dealers by night - life is certainly varied for West Midlands Police Special Constable Iain Hulbert.

The 34-year-old has been a volunteer with the force for the last 13 years and plays an important role in assisting full-time officers. His dedication and commitment has seen him awarded the title West Midlands Police Special Constable of the Year.

Iain juggles being a student at Birmingham University, working part-time as a first responder and being a

single father to carry out his policing work in Dudley. He dedicates more than 500 hours every year and has been involved in a range of police work including neighbourhood patrols, gathering vital intelligence on the streets, mentoring cadets as well as supporting events and operations.

He has been right on the frontline helping to stop a car of suspected drug dealers and to recover a large quantity of class A drugs, plus a loaded firearm hidden under a seat. He has helped save someone's life after identifying they had sepsis when displaying

symptoms which others could have confused as flu.

He said: "I really enjoy being a special - I look forward to the days I can get into policing mode and work alongside regular officers on the Dudley Neighbourhood Taskforce. It is such a varied role, very fulfilling and I have really been made to feel part of the West Midlands Police family."

"Even with my other commitments this is not something I would want to give up; there is so much satisfaction in playing a part in helping our communities."

Veterans to be honoured on Armed Forces Day

WAR heroes are being invited to attend a medal presentation as part of Armed Forces Day.

Veterans living in the Dudley borough are encouraged to attend an event celebrating the work of servicemen and women, past and present at Himley Hall and Park, on Sunday, July 1.

The day will include a presentation of medals and badges, including the HM Armed Forces Veterans Badge by the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Alan Taylor. The free event is being run by Dudley Council from 11am to 5pm.

Amanda Tomlinson, chief executive at Black Country Housing Group, which is sponsoring this year's event, said: "We are calling on servicemen and women who are entitled to, or have already been sent their HM Armed Forces Badges, to come forward and have them officially presented at Armed Forces Day."

Councillor Taylor, added: "The council's Armed Forces Day celebrations are growing every year, attracting thousands of visitors to Himley Hall. It's free entry and includes entertainment for all generations of the family to enjoy with the formal proceedings and badge presentation being a highlight of the day."

Vehicles

Other highlights include music performances by the RAF Cosford Voluntary Band, First World War and Second World War-themed history talks, a display of historic military vehicles and children's entertainment including vintage fairground rides.

Anyone who believes they are entitled to one of the HM Armed Forces Veterans Badges should email dbs-modmo-vetsbadge@mod.uk to apply, or for medal queries DBS-Medals@mod.uk, or call the Veterans UK helpline on 0808 1914218.

Veterans need to have applied for, and received their badge, before contacting Dudley Council in order to have them presented on the day.

Veterans who served on the Arctic convoys and in the Bomber Command can also apply for their badge before Armed Forces Day by calling the Veterans UK helpline. Anyone who has already received one of the badges but not had it formally presented to them, can contact Dudley Council on (01384) 818186 to be part of the ceremony.



Veterans urged to apply for Armed Forces Veterans Badge, shown by Staff Sergeant Richard Godfrey

Liberty to shut site but give jobs pledge

NEARLY 50 workers at a factory in the Black Country have been told it will close at some point over the next five months.

Liberty Group says it has decided to pull out of the markets served by its Drawn Tubes and Fairbright Wire businesses in Phoenix Street, West Bromwich.

But the company says it will aim to find new roles for the 49 workers at either its own sites in the West Midlands or with other engineering companies nearby that it has close links with.

Liberty has around 17 sites in the West Midlands and employs around 1,000 people across the

Black Country after it bought up a string of factories following the collapse of Caparo Industries in 2015.

Both Phoenix Street businesses face a long-term decline in their markets and competition from bigger and cheaper rivals on the Continent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bid to save fields from development

A CAMPAIGN has been launched opposing a proposal for a designer outlet shopping centre in Oldbury.

A group opposed to the development of Lion Farm playing fields picketed a meeting at Sandwell Council this week. They want to halt a proposal for a scheme that developers say could create 2,000 jobs.

No application has yet been submitted for the 200,000sq ft development on council-owned land close to Junction 2 of the M5. But one of the campaigners, Mike Svirter, of Newbury Lane, said: "I thought councils were supposed to be redeveloping brown-field sites not green spaces."

Event raised funds to help macaques

DUDLEY Zoo is sending more than £250 to a project helping to protect macaques in Indonesia, thanks to the generosity of visitors.

A total of £257.40 was raised during International Macaque Week when primate keepers held an awareness event throughout the last Bank Holiday weekend.

A stand was set up in the Castle Courtyard and keepers were on hand to spread the word about Selamatkan Yaki - a project working with critically endangered Sulawesi crested black macaques in Indonesia.

All roads lead to annual Auto Fest

HUNDREDS of car enthusiasts are expected to attend the annual Auto Fest in Bromsgrove on Sunday.

The event on June 3 at Stoke Prior Country Club will showcase classic, modern, sports and performance cars. It will also include a family entertainment zone with bouncy castle and stalls.

The festival will raise money for Onside, a charity which supports people with mental health, dementia and learning disabilities. The show is open from 10am to 5pm. Entry is £5 per car, £2 per bike.

Neighbours celebrate with £1,000 prize each

SIX lucky neighbours in Hagley are celebrating after their postcode was drawn as a winner of the People's Postcode Lottery's Daily Prize.

Church Street residents who are subscribers to the lottery have each picked up a cheque of £1,000 thanks to their DY9 0NA postcode.

A minimum of 32 per cent of the People's Postcode Lottery ticket sales goes to charities, including local causes.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Storing up trouble as millions shop online

IT'S always a bit of a downer when you return from your holiday. And even more so when you switch on the television hoping to relax with a pint of mild and a bit of Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away, only to be greeted instead by Fiona Phillips wittering on about the 'fall of a national institution'.

Asking the so-so former breakfast TV presenter to analyse the decline of Marks & Spencer is like getting Gazza to front a documentary on Greek literature. Strange choice.

But while it was not the viewing I had planned, there is also no denying Channel 5 had its timing spot-on with this one, coinciding perfectly with the news that M&S would be closing 100 stores, with the one in Walsall among the first.

Now, unlike Fiona, I don't hold any great place in my heart for M&S. Maybe it's the memories of never-ending boredom in childhood, when this seemed by far the duller place in the world. Or maybe it was the way it so quickly turned its back on the high streets of Dudley and West Bromwich when it calculated there was more profit in having a single branch at Merry Hill.

This is not a national institution, it's just another store chain. And one which showed so little loyalty to its Black Country customers in the 1980s can hardly demand an outpouring of goodwill now it is facing hard times.

But while I won't mourn the brand, I do feel huge sadness for the people losing their jobs through no fault of their own, and also the huge hole this is going to leave in our already-struggling town centres. Already there is speculation about the future viability of the Saddlers Centre, where the Walsall branch is based, and I fear we will see more of the same when the full extent of the closure programme becomes clear.

It seems the one thing everyone agrees on is that it is growth of online shopping which is killing our towns. So why do we do it? Well frankly, I don't. I've never seen the appeal in paying up-front for items I haven't seen, and then being told they can't be delivered because I am at work. Yet strangely, millions of people can't get enough of it, probably the same people who will take to their keyboards bemoaning the decline of their town.

It's time to wake up. If you care about where you live, support your town centre, even if it means paying a few pounds more. Otherwise, a few years from now, all we will be left with is a few global technology giants. And nobody will make documentaries mourning their passing.

No life, or style for retirement, it seems, with magazine



Blair's latest Brexit re-referendum rambblings brought forth an interesting response



Gordon Brown in his days as PM – as Chancellor, he is accused of targeting Mr Rhodes



TV fly-on-the-wall show 24 Hours In Police Custody – making no assumptions

Feeling ruff after taking supplement

I MENTIONED Virol a few days ago. It was a food supplement which vanished from the market some years back. A reader, after some research, points out that the ingredients of Virol sound remarkably like dog food. Well, it never did me any harm. Woof.

INTRIGUINGLY, a Google search for Virol will take you to an Amazon web page offering three varieties of malt extract and a weatherproof masonry sealer. Versatile, or what?

AH, the eternal steely pragmatism of the British. An online debate about Tony Blair's suggestion for a second Brexit referendum brought forth this gem: "While the message was okay, nonetheless after reading it, could someone please shoot the ****ing messenger."

ANOTHER flurry of messages follows up the issue of litter around Loch Lomond which I touched on recently. "The answer is education," declares one contributor. Really? And how many hours in the classroom does it take to convey the message: "Don't drop that."?

THERE were times during the Chancellorship of Gordon Brown when I thought he had it in for me personally. His budgets seemed surgically targeted at me for earning a little more than the minimum wage, using a company car and having a fuel card, while he was bunging more money to the old and frail. Year after year, Brown took money out of my wage packet and gave it to my mother-in-law. Was this his revenge for one or two (okay, maybe more) dif-

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



ficult interviews? Anyway, the Tory government has now taken up the hounding of me. In the crusade against pollution, I am targeted for driving a diesel car, for having solid-fuel central heating and for keeping the baronial hall tepid with a couple of log-burning stoves. All may be banned in the name of cleaner air. Dare no-one suggest the problem could be solved if selfish people learned to breathe a little less?

WHEN a man in Ohio phoned police to report that a pig was following him home, the cops assumed the caller was drunk. Not so. He was sober and the animal was a domestic pig in need of company. I bet we were all reminded of the poem about the drunk who falls asleep in the gutter next to a pig. There are several versions but they all end with a lady, disgusted at the sight exclaiming: "You can tell a man who boozes by the company he chooses." / And the pig got up and slowly walked away.

SOMETHING called a "Lifestyle Retirement Magazine" has just arrived from Legal & General. Dear God above – is this the future? The front cover shows an old bloke with a grey Corbyn-like beard riding a bike while wearing a plastic helmet. On his feet are trainers, worn over black socks, presumably to indicate he is

English. They call it "lifestyle" but what sort of life is this and where, oh where, is the style? Turn to page 5 of the L&G leaflet and there's a graphic of a toilet roll. Why? Because according to a survey, one of the things that surprises people when they retire is "How many toilet rolls we use." For the record, I know several retired folk who don't own a bike or a beard, and who never, ever fret about bog-paper. And if they found themselves morphing into Jeremy Corbyn I'm sure they'd do something about it. If this is the image most people have about retirement it may explain why so many are happy to keep on working.

EVERY journalist knows that sinking feeling experienced by the detective in 24 Hours in Police Custody (C4) when the threads fall apart and you realise the great story you're working on isn't a story at all. In this case it came when an officer uncovered medical records showing that a woman found with her throat slashed – and assumed to be a murder victim – had a long history of self-harming, including trying to cut her throat. But then the only eye-witness had already told cops she had seen the "victim" alone at the death scene. I found it surprising that anybody, in this case the woman's oddball partner, could be arrested and held in custody on little more than an assumption. They tell us we're innocent until proved guilty!

BUT then police and hacks work differently. For example, "never assume anything" is one of the golden rules of journalism. At least I assume it is.

TALKING POINT



Music to my ears to say I'm a rock chick

LIKE Cher without the surgery, Debbie Harry on a quiet day and Madonna if she ate cake – I too am an ageing rock chick.

As a sassy teen rocker I can remember looking at 'old' people at gigs – probably aged about 35 to my young eyes – and wondering why would they still be turning out for concerts at their age?

Today I am more than a little over the age of 35 and still go to as many gigs as ever. Admittedly my back and calf muscles ache the following day. And though my jeans are still too tight it is in very different places and more to do with a hearty supper rather than some DIY tapering on my mum's sewing machine. I tend to take a coat these days too.

The standing/dancing area remains my ticket of choice and, being vertically challenged, I need to get close enough to see. Though when going to watch the 'classic' bands still going from my youth I find they are often all-seaters now. Even the singers tend to need a sit down.

I can still be found at the odd music festival – but NEVER in the camping area. Camping at music festivals is something that can only be enjoyed by the young or insomniacs. Give me a nice warm hotel bed and an en suite bathroom every time. My back isn't up to a camp bed or deflating airbed anymore.

Sadly, there seems something a little undignified to see women of a certain age still staking a claim to their place in the music scene. Isn't it time Madonna covered up a little and stopped subjecting us to images of her muscles and veiny arms? And I don't doubt that the excitable young things bounding around at Kasabian view my bestie and I as a pair of Edina and Patsy clones.

In truth I always thought I would 'grow out of' loud and live music at some point and develop a love of easy listening and maybe even classical. Thankfully it never happened.

I dislike the rapid-chat-to-music that my daughter listens to and can regularly be heard shouting merrily 'turn that row down'. Would it kill her to listen to a guitar band every now and again?

But music still lifts my mood, evokes uncharacteristic energy and movement from me and brings a smile to my face. So I have no intention of giving up going to concerts – I am an ageing rocker and proud of it.

I once saw a 'motivational' plaque with the message 'Life is a piece of music, and you are supposed to be dancing.' Well I am still dancing – just not in the the mosh pit anymore.

DIANE DAVIES

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Great strides made during walk week

LIVING Streets' Walk to School Week is over for another year and we'd like to thank everyone across Dudley who contributed to making it a massive success.

Nearly 32,000 pupils from Dudley joined in with pupils across the UK to enjoy the many benefits of walking to school.

Motor vehicles are the biggest source of air pollution and one in four cars on the road at peak times are on the school run. More children walking to school

means fewer vehicles on the road and improved air quality for everyone.

Families in Dudley can know that they've helped be part of the solution this Walk to School Week by swapping four wheels for two feet.

Walking to school not only improves our air quality but is a great way for children to build more exercise into their daily lives, helping them to arrive at school healthier, happier and ready to learn.

Once again, a huge thank you and

congratulations to everyone who took part in this year's Walk to School Week - with your help we'll get more children experiencing a healthier and happier walk to school.

The week may be over but the walking doesn't have to stop. Parents, carers and teachers can head to livingstreets.org.uk/walktoschool for tips and advice on continuing to make great strides.

KEVIN CROSSDALE
Schools Manager, Living Streets

Too much wasted on EU and aid

I see some waste-of-space 'discussion' group recently suggested that pensioners should pay more in taxes to support the young. What utter garbage!

I paid tax and full National Insurance contributions for 46 years, as did many of my friends and work colleagues and I'm still paying £1,100 a year income tax on my pension because, knowing that the UK state pension was the lowest in Europe, I had the foresight to pay additional voluntary contributions into my works pension.

Most of the income tax and National Insurance contributions was, and continues to be, squandered by successive useless British governments on such things as the 'ring fenced' foreign aid budget and on our continued £70 million a day payments to the European Union dictatorship which, according to reports, most young people support!

MR R A SARGEANT
Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

[dudley.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk)

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

It's drivers that cause accidents, not the junction

ISN'T all the talk about the 'dangerous junction' at Gospel End Street and Vicar Street rather missing the point? Drivers cause the accidents, not the junction.

These accidents are caused by one of a number of obvious issues - drivers driving too fast; not indicating their intentions; or just plain impatience.

All are symptoms of what is becoming painfully obvious, the general standard of driving is appalling.

And it's not just the young drivers, older drivers who should know better are just as bad.

Speed bumps might help but I'm not convinced.

ALAN ASHMAN
Sedgley

Volunteers are helping children

ACROSS the West Midlands hundreds of inspiring people are helping to transform young lives with volunteering work and supporting The Children's Society.

This Volunteers Week (1-7 June) we would like to say a huge thank you to the 2,964 supporters in the West Midlands who help our charity in so many different ways and support vulnerable children. There are 29,309 children living in the West Midlands classed as children 'in need' and 6,455 in care. The Children's Society's volunteers, campaigners and supporters make a real difference to so many young people by supporting them directly in our services, by volunteering in our charity shops, by organising events, donating and raising vital funds and awareness.

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MATTHEW REED
Chief Executive
The Children's Society

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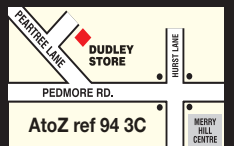
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Pensnett High Street (A4101) reopens*

Highways boss thanks people for their patience as the multi-million traffic-busting scheme to improve Pensnett High Street nears full completion.



Councillor Karen Shakespeare, cabinet member responsible for the borough's roads, said "A big thank you to all the residents, businesses and motorists for bearing with us over the last 12 months throughout the disruption in Pensnett."

"Its High Street is one of the busiest roads in our borough but it wasn't built to cope with the 30,000 vehicles passing through it every day.

"It's been a really huge job, but now, 12 months on, our new improved road layout is set to open and people will hopefully notice a major difference in their travel times through the area.

"As the workers move out and the area gets back to normal, please remember to shop local and support the variety of shops and businesses in the area."

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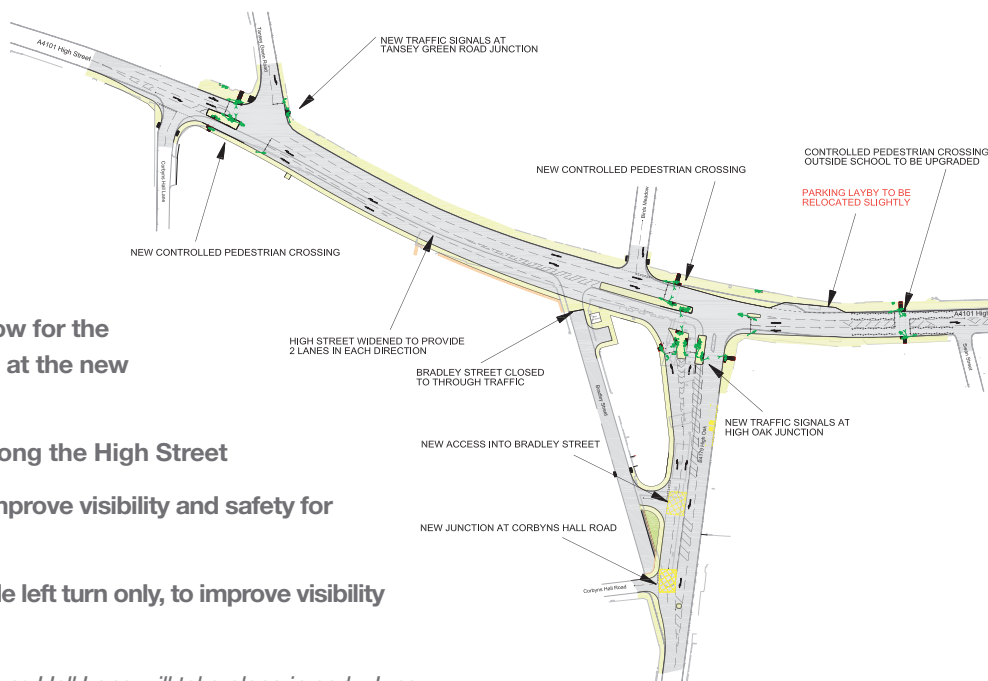
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- **Birds Meadow and Tansey Green Road* made left turn only, to improve visibility and safety for motorists and pedestrians**

* finishing touches to Tansey Green Road and Corbyns Hall Lane will take place in early June.



DUDLEY COUNCIL'S REGENERATION & ENTERPRISE SERVICE
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Team Ashwood score double Chelsea triumph

A COLOURFUL display from a Kingswinford garden centre won the President's Award and a Gold Award at the Royal Horticultural Society's prestigious Chelsea Flower Show.

Ashwood Nurseries' display of beautiful early spring flowering hellebores caught the eyes of judges in the Great Pavilion.

The colourful herbaceous plants were making their debut this year, the first time that hellebores have been shown as a single exhibit at Chelsea.

Nurseries owner John Massey VMH and Ashwood's hellebore breeder Kevin Belcher masterminded the project to showcase their world-renowned Helleborus x hybridus Ashwood Garden Hybrids, widely regarded as some of the best hellebores ever produced.

The double accolade, combined with it being a debut for a single exhibit of hellebores at Chelsea, resulted in plenty of media attention. Carol Klein visited the stand, interviewing Mr Massey for the BBC TV Chelsea Flower Show coverage.

Weather

Plants earmarked by Mr Belcher for flowering at Chelsea came out of the cold store into the May sunshine and burst into life. However, this Spring's weather has been testing them with the plants constantly on the move - windy conditions meant that they had to be re-located to a more protected site, then very warm temperatures resulted in them being returned to the cold store more than once to prevent them peaking too soon.

'Team Ashwood' led by manager Karrina Gilbert helped prepare and



The two awards at Chelsea



The hellebores on display



Owner John Massey with Kevin Belcher transport the plants and materials, as well as building the exhibit and manning the stand. Retired Ashwood breeder Philip Bauk returned to bring his expertise in exhibiting.

It was the fourth visit to Chelsea by the team from the Ashwood Lower Lane nursery. In 1996 a lewisia exhibit won a gold medal followed by another



Mr Belcher moves the hellebores in 2005 for hydrangeas. In 2016 an hepatica exhibit scooped gold as well as the Diamond Jubilee Award for the best exhibit in The Great Pavilion.

Mr Massey said: "Everything we've worked for over the last year was put to the test. The real stars of the show are the plants themselves and we just have to hope they perform on cue."

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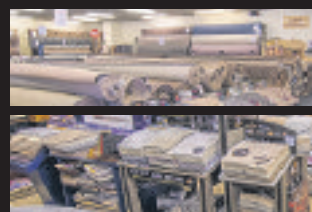
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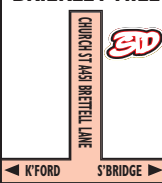
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Scouts' veteran leader is awarded MBE at 96

"I MIGHT as well keep going – I'd rather be doing that than sitting at home doing my knitting."

The words of 96-year-old Scout leader Derek Elton, who has been awarded an MBE after more than eight decades of service with the youth movement. He was presented with his award at one of the places closest to his heart – Age Concern Stourbridge and Halesowen's Elton Centre branch in St John's Road, Stourbridge, which was named after him.

Work on a railway bridge nearby was even put on hold so the centre could open for the special ceremony after being closed for several weeks.

The unsung hero first got involved with the Scouts when he was just 15 years old, and as he edges closer to 100, he still serves as the leader of Kinner Scout Camp – with no intention of stopping.

Love

"I still love it," said Mr Elton, who lives in Wollaston, just outside Stourbridge town centre. "I've been volunteering for and with the scouts for years. It has done so much for me and put me on the right lines in life."

Mr Elton was named in the Queen's New Year's Honours list for his services to scouting and the community in Stourbridge.

"It shook me when I found out – I was overcome," he explained. "I thought they'd got the wrong person. I was sworn to secrecy and couldn't tell anyone, which was difficult. I don't know how I kept it in."

The ceremony took place last week when the Lord-Lieutenant of the West Midlands, John Crabtree OBE, presented him with his MBE in front of family, friends and Scout members



Lord-Lieutenant John Crabtree OBE presents the award to Mr Elton



Long service – Derek Elton pictured presenting awards to Scouts in 1950

past and present. The Elton Centre has been closed for weeks during work on the nearby bridge but was opened especially for the presentation while Network Rail suspended work for a day.

Mr Elton added: "I've been to Windsor twice to receive awards for scouting and I've got the highest award for that – and now I've got this"

In 2008 Mr Elton was awarded the Scout movement's highest honour, becoming one of a select few to receive the Silver Wolf. The award honours members who have given exceptional service.

It is given only to members of the Scout movement who have already achieved a Silver Acorn and Silver Acorn with Bar awards.

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Hallelujah! This soul sister is leading act

SINGER Keshia Herbert from West Bromwich is stepping into Whoopi Goldberg and Alexandra Burke's shoes by taking the lead role of feisty Deloris Van Cartier, in Quarry Bank Musical Theatre Society's production of Sister Act.

The musical, which was a hit movie and stage musical, is being staged by the amateur theatre group runs at Brierley Hill Civic Hall from Tuesday to Saturday, June 5-9.

Keshia, aged 29, is currently a member of a choir called Legally Sound, organised by her employers, Higgs & Sons and together with her fellow choir members has performed in and won the Legal Harmony Choir competition, which was held in London in 2016.

Sister Act requires a very special leading lady and when Keshia heard the group were looking for Deloris, she just couldn't wait to join them.

"The role is challenging because there are a lot of songs and dances to learn as well as the dialogue,"

Keshia said. "But our director and musical director have been so supportive and the members have been helpful, offering their time to go through lines, dances and songs with me, even outside of rehearsals."

"I especially love acting. I get to go out on stage as someone else and I love the professionalism that the members have and the determination they show to put on the best performance possible. But most of all, I love the camaraderie. They have all been performing together for a very long time but have made me feel like part of the family."

Sister Act is a popular choice for am dram companies with its story about a nightclub singer sent to a convent on a witness protection scheme. The soulful score is different to the movie version but equally as engaging. Keshia is joined by Sheila Wood as Mother Superior, Tom Robinson as Sweaty Eddie and Carl Cook as Curtis. For tickets visit www.qbmts.org.uk



Praise be! Keshia Herbert stars as Deloris in Sister Act at Brierley Hill Civic Hall next week

Health merger plan was ditched over financial concerns

A PLANNED merger of health services was ditched after it emerged the new model would have operated at a loss.

Transforming Care Together would have combined Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

The project, which was two years in the making, aimed to save £7 million a year but in April, following changes in each trust's financial position, the merger was ditched.

A Black Country Partnership (BCP) spokesman said: "The business case for the integrated organisation was developed in early 2017. By February/March 2018 the financial position of each trust had changed and a revised financial projection suggested the integrated organisation would be operating at a loss."

"Clearly it would not be sensible to undertake integration in circumstances where sustainable patient services could not be provided."

BCP is now looking at setting up a partnership with Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership in mental health, learning disability and children's services.

Motorway bypass is back on the table

PLANS for a controversial motorway that will skirt the Black Country and carve through sections of Staffordshire are back.

The Western Orbital scheme – also known as the Wolverhampton bypass – was twice rejected in the 1990s and 2000s due to concerns over its environmental impact.

But a new report to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) reveals that transport body Midlands Connect is to use part of a £4 million funding pot to scope plans to revitalise the scheme.

Now dubbed the Western Strategic Route, the motorway would cut a 40-mile swathe through countryside from the M5 junction 4a at Bromsgrove, to junction 2 of the M54 near the i54 business park.

It would pass Codsall, Codsall Wood, Perton, Pattingham, Wombourne, Dudley, Stourbridge and Kidderminster.

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson has accused Midlands Connect of attempting to push through the plans 'by stealth'.

He said: "It is of grave concern that Midlands Connect appear to be bringing these failed and rejected plans back to life."

"This proposed new motorway or bypass would rip through the heart of the South Staffordshire green belt and cause irreversible environmental damage to unblemished and cherished countryside."

"My constituents will be

By Peter Madeley

shocked to see that plans which have been repeatedly opposed and dropped are suddenly back on the table by stealth. I will be writing to Midlands Connect seeking urgent clarity."

Midlands Connect says the new route could form part of a new regional 'motorway hub' that would support the regional and national economy.

They are due to reveal more details on the scheme early next month.

Maria Machancoses, Midlands Connect director, said the route was 'one of a wide range of proposals that requires further analysis. Walsall councillor Richard Worrall, chair of the WMCA's transport delivery committee, said: "I think that if you want to ease the burden of traffic you really need people to use other means of transport."

"I'm not sure building more motorways is the answer." A consultation is under way over proposals for a link road between the M54 and M6 North/M6 Toll.

Motorcyclist hurt

A MOTORCYCLIST was injured after a collision involving a car at Himley.

The accident happened on the A449 Wolverhampton Road at around 9pm on Wednesday, May 23.

A black Audi A1 and a motorbike were involved. The rider of the bike, aged in his 50s, needed treatment for cuts. He was taken to Russells Hall Hospital.

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Former paperboy murder suspect has heart attack

A FORMER suspect in the Carl Bridgewater murder has suffered a heart attack, his second major health scare since a TV documentary appeared to implicate him in the paperboy's death at Yet Tree Farm in 1978.

Pensioner Bert Spencer, originally from Stourbridge, is recovering at his Lincolnshire home following surgery. He claims the attack was brought on by 40 years of stress from having been such a high-profile suspect, exacerbated by the Channel 4 programme two years ago which revisited the crime. He said: "There is only so much a human being can take. It's inevitable that so much stress has had a serious effect on my health."

The 77-year-old had been moving heavy flowerpots minutes before he collapsed.

Amnesty extended as more guns taken off the streets

A FORTNIGHT firearms surrender campaign to tackle violent crime has been extended.

West Midlands Police's crack-down will run for a further week, now ending this Sunday, June 3.

The force has seen more than 70 firearms handed in so far during the campaign.

Weapons can be surrendered at any of their stations, including Wolverhampton, Bloxwich, Brierley Hill, Birmingham, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton and Bloxwich. They can also be handed in by calling West Midlands Police on 101 and arranging for officers to make a home visit.

So far in 2018, police have taken 53 firearms off the streets amid 45 reported firearms discharges, compared

to 62 in the same period last year. The force's last surrender saw nearly 250 potentially lethal weapons and ammunition handed in.

Detective Inspector Rod Rose said: "I would urge anyone who is holding a gun, maybe through fear or misguided loyalty to someone else, to hand it in now, otherwise the alternative could be up to five years in prison."

Vampires and zombies at castle fright nights

DUDLEY Castle will become the dramatic backdrop for a double bill of classic horror movies this summer when the castle courtyard is again turned into an open-air cinema.

For the third year running Flatpack will bring movies to the 11th century castle yard and, following last year's screening of *An American Werewolf in London*, it will see a pair of fright nights offered in August.

Influential horror movie *Night of the Living Dead*, which really started the modern zombie genre, will be screened on Friday, August 3, and then on Saturday August 4, it is stylish 1980s teenaged vampire flick *The Lost Boys* starring Corey Haim and Kiefer Sutherland.

Zoo Manager, Matt Lewis, said: "Film goers need to bring a chair or a blanket to sit on and then can get comfy ready to watch the cult classics in an incredible atmosphere."

Both films are 15 certificate and doors open each evening at 7pm. Both nights will have warm-up films shown at 9pm and the feature presentation will kick off at 9.30pm. There will be hot food, a licensed bar, mood lighting and special effects. It is £10 per film and a double bill ticket deal is £18 with concessions available. To book call (01384) 215313. Visit www.dudleyzoo.org.uk/double-bill-of-cult-classics/

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Lydia's pedal power in memory of friend



Lydia Pountney, from Stourbridge, on her cycling challenge

A WOMAN from Stourbridge has completed a 47-mile bike ride in memory of her childhood friend who died suddenly.

Lydia Pountney, from Pedmore, took on the Peak District Pioneer Adventure Cross bike challenge in Derbyshire in memory of her friend, Steph Oakley, who tragically died from sudden arrhythmic death syndrome in November.

Steph, from Kingswinford, was just 26 when she passed away.

Nurse Lydia, aged 28, said: "Our dads used to work together so she was a family friend and we used to holiday together. We have a lot of memories.

Lydia, who completed the long uphill course in seven hours, was also raising money for SADS, a charity which funds research and medical equipment to prevent premature sudden cardiac death.

She added: "It was very hot and hard work but very rewarding and worth it."

She has beaten her original fundraising target at £500, so far raising more than £900 with more to be collected.

One in four spend their life indoors

A QUARTER of people in West Midlands spend almost their entire lives indoors where the air can be up to five times more polluted than outside.

New research by YouGov reveals an 'indoor generation' that are largely unaware of the significant health risks posed by spending too much time indoors - especially on children, whose bedrooms can be the most polluted room in the house.

The survey asked people how much time they spend indoors with 25 per cent of people in the region saying between 21 and 24 hours each day, and a further 29 per cent of people said they spend between 19 and 20 hours inside.

It also revealed that the majority of people in the West Midlands (58 per cent) believe indoor air quality is cleaner or no better than outside, when it can be up to five times more polluted.

Vintage transport fair steams in at Himley again

A HIGHLY popular annual Vintage Transport and Country Fair will return to Himley Hall and Park at the weekend.

The event will run on Saturday and Sunday with organisers promising it will be bigger and better than before.

Now in its fifth year, the day has developed from being the former Steamer Sunday to a vintage vehicle display and country fair attracting exhibitors from across the country.

Steam engines, fairground organs, tractors, classic cars, vintage motorbikes, cycles and vintage fire engines will all be on display.

Councillor Ian Kettle, Dudley Council's cabinet member for tourism, said: "There is plenty for people of all ages to enjoy and visitors will have the opportunity to chat to owners about their well-loved exhibits."

There will also be arts and craft stalls, street food, vintage stalls, hand-crafted collectables, a children's funfair, chainsaw carving, radio car club and live music at the free event.

The fair will run from 10am to 4pm on both days. Parking costs £5.

For more information, visit www.himleyhallandpark.co.uk/vintagefair



Himley Hall and Park will be the setting again for the biggest Vintage Transport and Country Fair so far

Killer driver's appeal kicked out by judges

A DANGEROUS driver who killed a great-grandfather in a crash on a Black Country road has failed to have his 10-year sentence reduced.

Personal trainer Kamran Raja, 37, was driving at 'motorway speeds' on the A4123 Wolverhampton Road in Oldbury just before he struck 85-year-old Edward Harris' Honda in April 2016.

He pleaded guilty to causing the pensioner's death by dangerous driving at Wolverhampton Crown Court last September but later applied to the Court of Appeal against the length of his prison term. However the Appeal judges have concluded he deserves every day of his decade-long sentence and have rejected the bid.

Raja was travelling at almost double the 40mph limit shortly before ploughing into the Honda at the junction with Castle Road East, propelling the car 100ft up the road

Petition as residents want their bus back

COUNCILLORS are calling for the reinstatement of a bus route serving Brierley Hill.

Councillors Judy Foster, John Martin and Karen Jordan, who represent Brockmoor and Pensnett Ward, are campaigning for the 228 bus service to be restored to Wallows Road in Brierley Hill.

It follows concerns raised by residents about the decision by bus company Hanson's to withdraw the service from Wallows Road in April 2017, when they extended the route to Russells Hall Hospital.

The new operator, Diamond Bus, decided to continue with the altered route when they purchased Hanson's last year.

Councillor Foster said: "We agree with residents that the distance and steep terrain makes it difficult to access bus services, particularly when carrying shopping or pushing prams or using wheelchairs."

"There is also a busy road to cross to get to the alternative bus stop identified. This is a very unsatisfactory situation and so we are inviting residents to sign our petition to reinstate the service on Wallows Road"

Complained

Councillor Foster has spoken with Transport for West Midlands, which commissions bus services across the area, and together with the other two Labour councillors representing the ward has organised a petition signed by local residents, which will be presented to a representative from the company.

By Steven Jones

There are also plans to present the petition at the Dudley Network review, scheduled for July.

Councillor Martin said: "A lot of elderly people have approached us and complained about it being taken off."

The petition already has several hundred signatures.

Councillor Martin added: "People are pleased that the councillors have listened and taken some action. It was down to the residents coming forward, all credit to them. We were only happy to help."

A spokesman for Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), said: "TfWM is unable to specify the routes of commercial bus services, however we work closely with operators to understand the impact on customers when changes are made."

"National Express West Midlands is undertaking a review of the bus network in Dudley in the autumn. As part of that, this location will be assessed to see if any bus services can be diverted to serve Wallows Road."

Fundraising Beacon walk in blindfolds

A FUNDRAISING blindfold walk is being held at the Beacon Centre for the Blind in Sedgley next month.

The Beacon Blindfold Walk on Saturday, July 7, from 10am will see pairs taking on the mile-long challenge around the grounds.

One will walk in a blindfold to the half way point where they will swap. As well as raising money, the event aims to give a better understanding of the issues blind people face on a daily basis.

It costs £10 for adults and £5 for children aged 12 to 16 to enter and people taking part are also being encouraged to get sponsorship to help the charity.

Places can be booked on 01902 880111 or through the www.beaconvision.org website.

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Police bosses now ditching 30-second target for 101 calls

WEST Midlands Police has ditched self-imposed targets for answering 101 calls, branding them 'no longer fit for purpose'. The force set itself a standard of answering all non-emergency calls inside 30 seconds.

But it has repeatedly failed to hit the target, with such calls usually answered in between two and three minutes. Bosses say they are dropping the target as call handlers now spend longer speaking to 101 callers with the aim of resolving queries immediately.

Shoppers are urged to fight fakes

PEOPLE are being urged to be vigilant and avoid buying counterfeit goods at markets or car boot sales.

Staffordshire County Council's trading standards team co-ordinates the national Real Deal markets campaign in the county. Market organisers can sign up to support the fight to halt the sale of counterfeit goods.

Council communities leader Gill Heath said: "We want people to avoid the pitfalls of counterfeit goods - protecting themselves and legitimate businesses."

"Counterfeit goods can be hard to detect just to look at, so a knock down price is a good indicator. These items are shoddy, they may be dangerous."

Some of the hidden dangers of counterfeit goods include counterfeit alcohol such as vodka contains dangerous chemicals, counterfeit perfume can often burn skin or leave a rash and may contain lead.

The force is also prioritising 999 emergency calls, a policy which has seen a vast improvement in performance over the last 12 months.

WMP took nearly 1.5-million non-emergency 101 calls last year.

Chief Superintendent Sally Bournier, head of force contact, said: "We've previously set ourselves a standard of striving to answer 101 calls inside 30 seconds; this is not a national guideline but one we introduced ourselves some years ago."

Demand

"That time target is no longer fit for purpose as demand is changing and we now spend longer speaking to 101 callers with the aim to resolve their query at the first opportunity."

"We have now removed the arbitrary non-emergency answering time target. However, non-emergency contact has improved in the last 12 months such that we're still routinely answering half of all 101 calls inside 30 seconds. We would also encourage people with non-emergency policing queries to go to the force's new web portal."

Figures show the force now answers more than nine in 10 of all emergency calls inside the national 10-second standard.

New homes with roots in distant past



Fossil reliefs have been incorporated into metal railings and brickwork on the site

A MULTI-MILLION pound housing development is paying homage to the rich geological history of the land on which it is built.

Midland Heart's Mons Hill development near the Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve was designed to be in keeping with the location, while providing much-needed homes at an affordable rent.

The £5.8 million Dudley development consists of 43 houses and flats and was built on the former site of a college building. It is a joint venture between Midland Heart and Lovell Partnership Ltd.

Wren's Nest is a site of special scientific interest, internationally renowned for its geological importance, as well as being a national hibernation spot for seven species of bat, home to birds and rare wild flowers.

The design of Mons Hill includes a number of fossil reliefs, incorporated into the brickwork and metal railings, while the roads all have geological associations.

Calymene Mews is called after the calymene blumenbachii trilobite - better known as the 'Dudley bug' - which is unique to Wren's Nest and was featured in the borough's coat of arms.

Silurian Mews takes its name from Wren's Nest's well-preserved Silurian coral reef fossils. Fossil View pays tribute to the 700 types of fossil that have been found at Wren's Nest.

Man stabbed in gang attack outside shop

A MAN was stabbed after a car tried to run him down in a shocking attack in broad daylight at Black Country petrol station.

Armed police swarmed to the busy Texaco garage at Dudley Port, where a gang knifed a man and smashed up the car he was in with baseball bats.

The victim had tried to flee the group after a car attempted to mow him down as he walked along Park Lane East. He jumped into a passing car before the group in the other vehicle gave chase. The black Vauxhall Corsa pulled onto the forecourt of the Texaco garage, which also has a Morrisons Daily store, and the vehicle's windows were smashed as stunned shoppers looked on.

The victim, a 31-year-old man, was stabbed in the leg. He was taken to hospital for treatment for injuries, which are not thought to be life-threatening.

Armed police arrived at the scene at around 7.50pm on Wednesday (May 23). Officers locked down the area with a cordon in place.

A West Midlands Police spokesman said: "Police are investigating a disorder that took place outside Morrisons on Dudley Port."

Anyone with information is asked to call West Midlands Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Hall to host Dream picnic performance

AN open air performance of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream is being staged in the grounds of Hagley Hall. Touring group Quantum Theatre will be performing the play on July 7 at 7pm.

The audience is invited to bring along picnics. Tickets are £14 for adults and £8 for children available on 0845 450 5157.

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From penalty kicks to drop kicks for striker

FORMER Wolves and Aston Villa striker Grant Holt has signed a deal to become a professional wrestler.

Holt, aged 37, is now in training ready to make his debut in the ring. He says he will initially combine his new role with his football commitments.

Currently player-coach at National League side Barrow, Holt has agreed a deal with the British professional wrestling promotion to appear in more than one of their shows.

The striker was 34 when he endured an ill-fated loan spell at Wolves during the 2015/16 season, making only four substitute appearances under then-boss Kenny Jackett and failing to score having signed on loan from League One side Wigan Athletic.

Contract

He had also spent a similar loan spell at Villa Park in the 2013/14 season, making just 10 appearances, but did score for the Villans in a 2-1 defeat to Fulham.

The World Association of Wrestling said Holt will appear in its Fightmare 3 Supershow in 2019, while BBC Radio Norfolk has also reported he has signed a contract to become a professional wrestler. The former Nottingham Forest forward will team up with Roy and Zak Knight, also known as the UK Hooligans, on WAW's show.

Holt has scored more than 150 goals in more than 400 career appearances as a footballer, with Rochdale, Shrewsbury and Wigan also among his former clubs. He is not the first professional footballer to branch out into wrestling. Stuart Tomlinson spent two years in WWE using the ring name Hugo Knox after leaving Burton in 2013.



Grant Holt in action during his time spent playing at Wolves



The ex-Wolves and Villa player will be grappling with a new career next year

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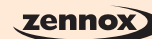
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Former magazine editor talks

Clent Gardening Club

Singers spring in with popular songs

THE April meeting of the Club welcomed guest speaker Tamsin Westhorpe from Stocktonbury Gardens near Leominster to present a talk on "My Life as a Gardening Editor".

Tamsin was the editor of The English Garden magazine for 20 years but now works full time at her nursery.

Tamsin began her talk by advising that during her teenage years she was at a loss to develop a career until she got a job working in a garden owned by an elderly gentleman in Bournemouth and a love of gardening was born.

Later on she became involved in journalism and gave an insight into the pressures of meeting deadlines and producing quality articles for her readers. She explained the importance of a good magazine cover to attract readers and she showed some examples of good covers and some not so good!

Tamsin also showed a series of photographs of fine English gardens. An excellent talk was well received by all present including visitors from Belbroughton Horticultural Society with whom this was our annual joint meeting. The vote of thanks was given by Alan Starling, Belbroughton Horticultural Society chairman.

All are welcome at meetings held at Clent Village Hall on the fourth Friday, contact chairman Martin Grange 01562 883009.



Some of the choir members who entertained with a spring theme at the May luncheon

CHAIRMAN Ann Rogers welcomed 32 members to the May luncheon held at The Lodge, Wellington Road, Dudley.

The 22 St Andrew's Singers entertained members with a delightful variety of songs relating to spring. They began with Spring Magic, then The Merry Month of May and their soloist Gordon Parker sang Younger than Springtime from South Pacific. Margaret Noakes then joined him in a duet from the musical Salad Days.

It was announced that places were still available on the outing to Hagley Hall on July 18 for a tour of the house followed by a cream tea. Tickets are also available for Ann's Coffee Morning on August 3.

Dudley South Ladies Luncheon Club

Meetings are held on the second Friday each month at The Lodge, noon for 12.30 pm, the next being on June 8 when Mr. John Evans will explain why "Diamonds are the Queen's Best Friend". In July the speaker will be Dr. Jonathan White, medical advisor to the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Visitors are most welcome and can attend three times before deciding to join. For more information call the secretary on 01902 372984 or email albertgriffithsme7@gmail.com

Back to age of rock 'n' roll

STOURBRIDGE Ladies Society met on April 24 with over 40 members and visitors. As the advertised speaker had been unable to attend, Mr John Billingham kindly stepped in to ask: "Do you remember life in the 1950s." He talked about

S'bridge Ladies Society

childhood games that were played, such as hopscotch, leap frog, skipping, marbles and conkers. He recalled radio programmes and the change in music as the

country's youth caught on to rock and roll.

The society meets in the Amblecote Room of Stourbridge Town Hall on the last Tuesday of each month at 2pm. For more information call Mrs M Hall 01384 288841.



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A shot of the pub dating back to the 50s/60s. From Wolverhampton Archives



A 1950s/60s view. From Wolverhampton Archives



Elephant & Castle, circa 50s/60s. Courtesy Wolverhampton Archives



The elephant once on the side of the building. From E&S



Intricate glass windows. Courtesy Wolverhampton Archives

Trunk call for memories of Elephant & Castle

MUSEUM bosses have asked people to share their memories of an historic Black Country pub, which they plan to recreate.

Bosses at the Black Country Living Museum want people to come forward with stories about the Elephant & Castle from before 1969.

The pub stood for decades on the corner of Stafford Street and Cannock Road in Wolverhampton.

Treasured

As part of its Forging Ahead project, the Tipton Road attraction will recreate this once-treasured watering hole in a 1940s to 60s town centre.

The Elephant & Castle was built in 1905 and five years later became part of the Banks's estate. Typical of its era, it had a public bar for the working

MEMORY LANE

By David Cosgrove

class and for the middle class it had a separate smoking room with slightly higher prices. It was unexpectedly demolished in 2001 just before it could be considered to be listed.

A museum statement said: "The pub's clientele was known to be diverse, with Wolverhampton being home to many thousands of Irish immigrants during the 19th century.

"After the Second World War, both the Irish and Commonwealth citizens from India, Pakistan and the Caribbean could be found enjoying a drink in the Elephant & Castle.

"Little is currently known about The Elephant & Castle's licensees in the post-war period. The museum believe that a Sydney Jones was in

charge in the 1940s, and Doris May Davies in the 1960s.

"Do you have any personal stories about the pub? The museum is especially interested in hearing about any memories prior to 1969. Did you or your family and friends drink there? Play dominoes there? Did you ever hear any stories about the pub? All information is useful, so please get in touch by emailing collections@bclm.com or call 0121 557 9643."

If plans lodged for the Forging Ahead scheme are approved they would see the museum expand by a third. Upon completion, it aims to welcome 500,000 visitors a year – up from the current 300,000 – as well as bringing extra jobs and apprenticeships for local people.

Among the buildings which will be saved and relocated is the 1940s Gas Showroom from West Bromwich High Street.



A glazed ceramic brick from the museum's collection

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Join last voyage of 'unsinkable ship'

He started off in Walsall. But theatrical director Thom Southerland has created one of the biggest theatrical productions of the year with Titanic. As a child, the daring and ambitious former pupil of Barr Beacon School used to watch productions at Birmingham's Hippodrome.

And on Monday he'll return to the Hippodrome for a week-long run with Titanic: The Musical, which ends on June 9.

In the final hour of April 14, 1912, the RMS Titanic, on her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York, collided with an iceberg and 'the unsinkable ship' slowly sank. It was one of the most tragic and infamous disasters of the 20th century. A total of 1,517 men, women and children lost their lives.

Based on real people aboard the most legendary ship in the world, Maury Yeston and Peter Stone's stunning musical focuses on their hopes and aspirations. Unaware of the fate that awaits them, the Third Class immigrants dream of a better life in America, the newly-enfranchised Second Class dream of achieving the lifestyles of the rich and famous, and the millionaire Barons of the First Class dream of their mastery lasting forever.

Thom, a former Express & Star paper boy who delivered newspapers to top up his pocket money, explains: "The musical started life in New York. A composer-lyricist had the idea to do a musical retelling of The Titanic - and most people thought that was the worst idea ever. How could we make a musical of one of the greatest tragedies of the 20th century?"

"But it is incredible. I heard the score on a CD. It had never been to the UK. The music is not about a ship. It's about the people who were on it."

The musical has been around the world during the past five years, growing each time.

"I can't be more happy than to think this show is touring the UK. It's our story and our legend; so many people that associate with it or are fascinated with it. It's because of the people and the stations and everything that people identify with."

The Hippodrome was where it all began for Thom. He was born in Walsall and went there as a kid to watch pantomimes and musicals. "This is the first time one of my shows will head to the Hippodrome. It wells me up when I think about it. I was born in Walsall, went to Barr Beacon School and we had a teacher, Mr Daniels, who would put on school plays. The teachers would let us act and that encouraged me so much."

He went to the theatre as well, in addition to classes for drama. Since then, his work has gone to America and Japan - but never Birmingham.

"When I was in Walsall, I did acting stuff. Then because I didn't think I was good enough to do that professionally, I desperately wanted to be part of it so I turned to directing."

"I remember going to see a show at the Hippodrome with my grandma and she'd say 'it's beautiful music' and I realised there was more than one way to do it. I went and studied as a director and I've just been very fortunate."

When Thom trained as a director, he was always interested in musical theatre. He wanted to redefine the genre, moving away from big, epic shows to ones where the story was at the heart of things.

"Musicals can get a bad rep



The greatest tragedy - Titanic: The Musical tells the tale

for being cheesy or old fashioned or not as worthy as plays that are in Stratford-upon-Avon. But I said there's no reason why you can't take a musical as seriously as the RSC."

So he started to put on his own shows in very, very small theatres, meeting the bills with his credit card. Instead of shows playing the London Palladium, he took them to 50-seat theatres and asked actors to play their own instruments.

The rest is history and Thom has become a hot property.

"With Titanic, there was these huge sets they tried to replicate what the Titanic looked like. We don't need to see it anymore. So when we see the musical, we see things you don't know. It's all about telling the story. There's no need, like James Cameron did, to make bits up and make fake love affairs up. There was 2,500 people on the ship - you don't have to make it up because those people were all living, breathing human beings who had fascinating stories of their own."

"I always tell the actors when I'm working on it. For half of the show, you

The music is not about a ship. It's about the people who were on it

think you are going to live a new life in a new world. They were aboard the largest moving object in the world, which was also the most glamorous and luxurious. They were experiencing the happiest day of their life.

"Everybody who worked there or who had bought a ticket were thrilled. The Titanic was monumental, the best in the world. They had all achieved."

"And then only four days later, they met their fate in the middle of the north Atlantic, through nobody's fault, in my humble opinion. Our job is to pay tribute to the people who sailed in her and understand what she was supposed to do and supposed to represent. Then to lay testament to the people who sailed in her. It's a disrespect to the people who lost their lives to make up fake love stories."

"Personally, I don't think you can comprehend the hugeness of the tragedy unless you bring it down to a parallel, the experience of one human being. Just as we can't understand the horrors of Nazi Germany but we can understand the diary of Anne Frank."

Andy Richardson

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.



The Lady Boys of Bangkok



Oh boy! It's a saucy start to June at the Grand

DREAMBOYS and Lady Boys add up to a memorable series of one-off concerts at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre to get June off to a saucy start.

Joined by celebrity Jake Quickenden (from The X Factor, I'm A Celebrity... and Dancing On Ice), The Dreamboys strut their stuff on Wednesday (June 6).

Then cabaret favourites The Lady Boys of Bangkok bring their glamour to the Grand on June 7 with their Wonder Women Tour. The glitzy show features the Lady Boys' tributes to Cher, Diana Ross, Shirley Bassey, Lady Gaga and Wonder Woman herself.

Before those shows, more traditional old fashioned fun can be seen at the Lichfield Street venue for three performances from Monday to Tuesday in A Grand

Music Hall. Hosted by the Grand's regular panto dame Ian Adams, the variety show features actor Keith Minshull, pianist Guy Rowland, illusionists Van Buren and Allyson, singer Julie Paton and, topping the bill, former Crackerjack and Good Morning Sunday host Don Maclean. There will be prizes for the best 'Good Old Days' costumes.

More nostalgia on Saturday (June 9) when the swing era is recalled with the music of The Glenn Miller Orchestra. The show also features the Moonlight Serenaders, the Swing Time Jivers and the Polka Dots with their tribute to the Andrews Sisters. That will certainly get you 'In The Mood' for some 40s favourites. For more details see grandtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01902 429212.

Her heart in Havana – her gig is in Brum



CHART-TOPPING singer Camila Cabello is hitting the road for her first solo tour.

Cabello's *Never Be The Same* tour follows the immediate success of her self-titled debut album. She will headline Birmingham's O2 on Wednesday (June 6). The Cuban-American singer and songwriter rose to fame as a member of the girl group Fifth Harmony, which was formed during the second season of *The X Factor US* in 2012. She began to establish herself as a solo artist with the release of several collaborations, including *Bad Things* with Machine Gun Kelly,

which reached number four on the US Billboard Hot 100.

After leaving Fifth Harmony in December 2016, she released the solo single *Crying in the Club*. Refocusing her sound to Latin-influenced music, her eponymous debut studio album *Camila* (2018) entered at number one on the US Billboard 200, supported by its lead single *Havana*, which topped the charts in several countries, including the UK and the US.

She said the success of *Havana* was empowering: "I think it really gave me a certain buzz of confidence. When you're a new solo artist, people are kind of

scared to do stuff that's different because they just want to go with what's already being played on the radio. They want to stick to the formula.

"We didn't even release 'Havana' as a single because no one believed in it enough. They were like 'Oh that's a cool song but it's definitely not what you want as a single from your album.' So when it worked, I was like, 'Nobody really knows anything, so you might as well go with what you love.' It was super-validating. It taught me this huge lesson of going with what you feel and you like."

Jane sails in for sell out shows

Singer and TV presenter Jane McDonald will be playing to full houses when she entertains at Birmingham's New Alexander Theatre next Friday (June 8) and returns to the region at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre on September 23. She found fame as a cruise ship singer in reality TV show *The Cruise* and is celebrating 20 years since she first sailed onto our screens. Now the Wakefield warbler is celebrating winning a Bafta for Channel 5 travel show *Cruising with Jane McDonald*.



It is going to be a hit, man, all over again

Agent 47 is put to the test in *HITMAN: Definitive Edition* (18), as Danish studio IO Interactive celebrates its 20th anniversary by bringing together the original award-winning video game with all of its previously released content and updates. It also includes new disguises for the stealthy assassin anti-hero which pay tribute to some of their other popular titles. The ICA agent, a Mark Strong look-alike, has exotic locations to choose from in Europe, Africa, America and the Far East as he hones his skills on missions to find and eliminate various targets. Warner Bros have taken on the title, which has a similar feel to their Batman franchise with emphasis on sneaking and surprise. An internet connection is needed as not all the add-ons are pre-loaded on the disc. It is available for Xbox One and PlayStation 4.

THE EXPRESS & STAR



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CHOICE



Gareth Southgate

Live International Football (ITV, 5pm)
 England v Nigeria (Kick-off 5.15pm). Coverage of the friendly encounter at Wembley Stadium, where both sides continue their preparations for this month's World Cup. England have just this match and one against Costa Rica to play before they fly out to Russia, where they will begin their campaign against Tunisia on June 18th. Gareth Southgate has named a relatively inexperienced squad for the finals, but will be using this fixture to assess his options, while Nigeria also have the World Cup to look forward to, and group fixtures against Argentina, Croatia and Iceland. Mark Pougatch presents, with commentary by Clive Tyldesley and Glenn Hoddle.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Hairys Bikers' Asian Adventure. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Athletics: Diamond League Rome Highlights. **2.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Warrington Wolves v Wigan Warriors (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.35** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.20** Celebrity Mastermind. (R) **5.50** BBC News.

6.00 **Regional Programme.**

6.05 **Film: Shrek 2.** (2004) The grouchy ogre and his new wife Princess Fiona set out on a journey to meet her parents. However, the king and queen are less than impressed with their daughter's choice of husband while a conniving fairy godmother is determined to make sure her own son gets to marry the princess. Animated adventure sequel, with the voices of Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, Eddie Murphy, Antonio Banderas, John Cleese, Julie Andrews, Jennifer Saunders and Rupert Everett.

7.30 **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present a Radio 2-themed edition, with contestants including Jo Whaley, Jeremy Vine, Zoe Ball, Michael Ball and Ken Bruce. (R)

8.20 **Casualty.** Alicia struggles to process the events of her night with Eddie, and collapses after refusing to take a break. Just as she starts to tell Ethan about her problems, Elle interrupts.

9.10 **All Round to Mrs Brown's.** Mrs Brown's Boys creator, writer and star Brendan O'Carroll dons Agnes's famous cardigan and curlers once again, throwing open the doors of the larger-than-life Irish matriarch's home to host the Saturday night chat show, filmed in front of a live studio audience. Joining in the fun this time around are musical duo Sting & Shaggy. This Morning's resident chef and star of Celebrity Juice Gino D'Acampo, Loose Women presenter Christine Lampard, and Dragons' Den stalwarts Peter Jones and Deborah Meaden.

10.10 **BBC News: Weather.** National Lottery Update.

10.30 **Film: Meet the Fockers.** (2004) Comedy sequel, with Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro.

12.20 The Button. (R) **12.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. **7.05** The Pets Factor. **7.30** The Denigiers. **8.00** Absolute Genius Super Tech with Dick & Dom. **8.30** Beyond Bionic. **9.00** Steve Backshall v the Monster Mountain. (R) **10.00** Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes? (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** SAS: Rogue Warriors. (R) **1.00** The World According to Kids. (R) **2.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **2.30** Second Chance Summer: Tuscanry. (R) **3.30** Love in the Countryside. (R) **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.20** Grammar Schools: Who Will Get In? (R)

6.20 **The Forest.** The Galloway Hills Rally draws crowds of visitors to the park, while tree planter Alastair Livingstone restocks a recently felled site with sycamore and oak. (R)

6.50 **Dad's Army.** Walmington-on-Sea leaves its mark on a visiting French general when the platoon repaints Lady Matlby's Rolls-Royce just in time for an official engagement. (R)

7.20 **Film: Ladies in Lavender.** (2004) The lives of two elderly spinster sisters are thrown into turmoil when a handsome Polish castaway washes up on the shore by their Cornish home and reawakens long-dormant yearnings and memories. Period drama directed by Charles Dance, starring Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Daniel Brühl, Miriam Margolyes, Natascha McElhone and Freddie Jones.

9.00 **Nothing Like a Dame.** Eileen Atkins, Judi Dench, Joan Plowright and Maggie Smith let the cameras in on a friendship that goes back more than half a century. Coming together for a weekend at the country retreat Dame Joan once shared with her husband Laurence Olivier, the acting greats discuss their lives and careers, reminisce about their humble beginnings in the theatre, and reflect on love and loss.

10.30 **All Girls Live at the Apollo.** A female-only special of the comedy show in which leading performers from the stand-up circuit entertain a packed house at London's Hammersmith Apollo.

11.15 **Later Weekend with Jools Holland.**

12.15 **Film: Quartet.** (2012) **1.45** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.45** Adventure Time. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball On Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **12.15** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Little Big Shots. (R) **1.30** ITV Racing Live: The Derby. Including coverage of the 4.30 Investec Derby. **5.00** Live International Football. England v Nigeria (Kick-off 5.15pm).

7.30 **ITV News: Weather.**

7.45 **Regional Programme: Weather.**

8.00 **The British Soap Awards 2018.** Phillip Schofield presents coverage of the event from London's Hackney Empire, featuring awards including Best Actor, Best Actress, Villain of the Year, Best Comedy Performance, Best Newcomer, Best Single Episode and Best Storyline. The Outstanding Achievement award will be presented to a long-standing member of the soap community, while one of Coronation Street, Doctors, EastEnders, Emmerdale and Hollyoaks will take home the coveted Best British Soap gong.

10.05 **ITV News: Weather.**

10.20 **International Football Highlights.** England v Nigeria. The key moments from the friendly international at Wembley Stadium, which was a vital one for Gareth Southgate's men in preparation for the World Cup.

11.15 **Film: Rocky.** (1976) A struggling boxer gets an unexpected shot at taking on the heavyweight champion of the world. Oscar-winning drama, starring Sylvester Stallone, Burgess Meredith and Carl Weathers.

1.30 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.00** Mr Selfridge. Harry pushes ahead with plans for the Selfridge Estate, aiming to buy a field at auction, but an unexpected rival bidder poses a threat. Miss Mardie makes her mark in fashion. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Mobil 1: The Grid. **6.30** Motor Sport: British GT. **7.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.50** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.20** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.50** Frasier. (R) **9.20** Frasier. (R) **9.50** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.20** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.50** The Simpsons. (R) **11.20** The Simpsons. (R) **11.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.50** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.20** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.55** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.25** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.30** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. (R) **5.30** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R)

6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **Film: Iron Man 2.** (2010) Tycoon-turned-superhero Tony Stark confronts a fearsome new foe in a Russian scientist using his own deadly hi-tech weapons to seek revenge. He also faces a struggle to keep his secrets out of the hands of both the government and an amoral rival, and discovers the armour he developed to fight evil is slowly killing him. Action adventure sequel, with Robert Downey Jr and Don Cheadle.

7.45 **Regional Programme: Weather.**

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CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.15** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.50** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **11.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.05** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **3.05** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **4.05** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **5.05** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R)

6.05 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Sheriff Paul Bohill tackles the case of a small debt owed by ex-footballer Neil Ruddock, before being forced to evict a school dinner lady in south London. (R)

6.55 **5 News Weekend.**

7.00 **Cricknet on 5.** England v Pakistan. Action from the second day of the Second Test in the two-match series, which took place at Emerald Headingley Stadium. Commentary and analysis is provided by Michael Vaughan, Mark Nicholas, Geoff Boycott, Alison Mitchell, Sourav Ganguly and Charles Dagnall.

8.00 **Queen Victoria and Her Tragic Family.** The series concludes with a look at the queen's efforts to control her children's personal lives, arranging a marriage for Princess Louise to a gay Scottish lord and refusing to let Prince Leopold to pursue an education at Oxford owing to his ill health - which he had already passed on to his children. The programme also examines how Princess Beatrice got married against her mother's will and the arrival of Indian servant Abdul Karim in the royal household. Last in the series.

9.00 **Elizabeth I: Death of a Dynasty.** The drama-documentary examines the Tudor queen's rousing speech at Tilbury, her decline into old age, and the Earl of Essex's betrayal. Last in the series. (R)

11.05 **5 News Update.**

11.10 **Agatha Christie's Crooked House.** Adaptation of the mystery novel, starring Max Irons. (R)

12.15 **SuperCasino. 3.10** **Film:** The Cabin in the Woods. (2012)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 The Burrowers: Animals Underground **8.00** Patagonia: Earth's Secret Paradise **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.50** Sicily: Wonder of the Mediterranean **11.50** Top of the Pops: 1985 **12.50** Kate Bush at the BBC **1.50** Hot Chocolate at the BBC **2.50** How to Get Ahead: At Renaissance Court **3.50** Close

ITV2

11.05 Britain's Got Talent **12.40** Britain's Got Talent Results **1.05** Ninja Warrior UK **2.10** You've Been Framed! Gold **3.10** **Film:** Red Riding Hood (2011) **4.10** FYI Daily **4.15** **Film:** Red Riding Hood (2011) **5.20** **Film:** The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014) **6.25** FYI Daily **6.30** **Film:** The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014) **8.00** **Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10** **Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) **10.40** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.40** CelebAbility **2.20** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

2.45 **Film:** Columbo: by Dawn's Early Light (1974) **4.50** Lewis **7.00** Endeavour **11.00** A Touch of Frost **1.15** On the Buses **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

9.00 Isle of Man TT **10.00** **Film:** Platoon (1986) **11.10** FYI Daily **11.15** **Film:** Platoon (1986) **12.25** **Film:** This Is the End (2013) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35** **Film:** This Is the End (2013) **2.35** Football Rivalries **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.00 The Goldbergs **1.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.30** Young Sheldon **1.55** **Film:** The Core (2003) **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film:** Speed (1994) **11.20** Gogglebox **1.25** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **2.30** Rude Tube **3.25** Gogglebox **4.15** Rude(ish) Tube **4.40** How I Met Your Mother

Film4

11.00 Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (2000) **1.00** Epic (2013) **3.05** Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) **4.45** Dr Dolittle 2 (2001) **6.35** Beautiful Creatures (2013) **9.00** The Other Woman (2014) A woman discovers her boyfriend is married, and joins forces with his wife and a third lover to get revenge. Comedy, starring Cameron Diaz, Leslie Mann and Kate Upton. **11.10** The Grassy Strangler (2016) Premiere. Comedy horror, starring Michael St Michaels. **1.00** The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2 (1986) **3.10** Close



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CHOICE



Frankie Boyle
Frankie Goes to Russia (BBC2, 9pm)

Part one of two. Frankie Boyle explores Russia in advance of the World Cup, looking at what lies behind national stereotypes and exploring the country's football culture. In the first episode, he visits the seaside town hosting the England team and a city renowned for football-related violence. He also joins a daredevil motorbike football team, records a world cup rap, and meets the sabre-wielding Cossacks policing the World Cup stadiums.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Garden Rescue. (R) **2.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** Britain's Best Home Cook. (R) **5.50** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. A special episode from the royal family's Balmoral estate. Matt Baker visits Glamis castle, ancestral seat of the Queen Mother, while Ellie Harrison explores Ballochbuie Forest and goes in search of wood grouse and a royal stag. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. The roving team values more decorative objects and rarities belonging to the public. **9.00** A Very English Scandal. Hugh Grant and Ben Whishaw star in the conclusion of Russell T Davies' drama based on the true story of the downfall of political leader Jeremy Thorpe. Norman survives a bungled attempt on his life, and publicly accuses Jeremy of having hired the would-be killer to silence him – an act which finally brings their secret relationship into the public eye for the first time. With the world watching, the ensuing court case drags years of acrimony between the two men into the light, as a man who would be prime minister stands trial for conspiracy to murder. Last in the series. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Imagine – Margaret Atwood: You Have Been Warned! Alan Yentob meets the Canadian author in Toronto to discover how a childhood spent between the wilderness and the city helped shape her vision of herself and the world. (R) **11.35** Film: **Up in the Air.** (2009) A corporate downsizing expert finds his emotionally detached lifestyle under threat from an executive with revolutionary ideas. Comedy drama, with George Clooney and Vera Farmiga. **1.15** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.20 Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **7.05** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.05** Countryfile. (R) **9.00** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **11.45** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **12.45** Wanted Down Under. (R) **1.30** Live Rowing World Cup. **3.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. **5.30** Flog It! (R) **6.00** Dragons' Den. More entrepreneurs present their money-making ideas to the panelists, including pitches for natural raw dog food, a date-based smoothie and a free-running exercise regimen. (R) **7.00** Million Pound Menu. Fred Sirieix presents the fine dining challenge which follows people who work in the food business as they seek major investment to launch their own restaurants. (R) **8.00** Journey in the Danger Zone: Iraq. Part one of two. Former soldier Adnan Sarai explores the country to see how it has changed since he was last there as part of the occupying force in 2003. **9.00** Frankie Goes to Russia. Part one of two. Frankie Boyle explores Russia in advance of the World Cup, beginning with a visit to the seaside town hosting the England team and a city renowned for violence. **10.00** Atlanta. A rival rapper steals the spotlight from Paper Boi at a charity basketball event, and Earn spots a chance to raise his professional profile when he is mistaken for someone else. **10.20** Atlanta. Van is irritated by her successful old friend Jayde, but the pair find a way to put aside their differences while smoking weed – until Van remembers she is due a drug test at work. **10.45** Live at the Apollo. Glaswegian comedian Frankie Boyle takes to the stage at London's Hammersmith Apollo, and introduces rising stars Jack Carroll and Holly Walsh. (R) **11.15** Film: **The Spectacular Now.** (2013) A teenage loner bonds with a drunken classmate who helps her create a new persona for herself to boost her confidence. Drama, starring Miles Teller. **12.45** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **1.45** Holby City. (R) **2.45** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.35** Din Dan: Tom. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.45** Adventure Time. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball On Sunday. **9.25** Countrywise: Secret Wild Places. (R) **10.25** Film: Casino Royale (1967) **1.00** ITV News: Weather. **1.10** Film: St Trinian's. (2007) Comedy, starring Rupert Everett. **3.00** Tenable. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **5.00** Celebrity Catchphrase. (R) **6.00** ITV News: Weather. **6.15** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.30** The Chase: Celebrity Special. Bradley Walsh presents as Westlife's Nicky Byrne, Olympian Amy Williams, Natalie Cassidy (EastEnders' Sonia Jackson) and Dave Myers of The Hairy Bikers pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser in the hope of winning a potential prize pot worth thousands of pounds. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught. (R) **7.30** Britain's Got Talent Final. Declan Donnelly hosts the live final of the nationwide talent search as the 12th series draws to a climax. A wide variety of acts have stepped in front of judges Simon Cowell, Amanda Holden, Alesha Dixon and David Walliams eager to impress, and tonight the last remaining contestants will be putting in one last performance to earn the votes of the viewing public and get the chance to be crowned champion, win £250,000 and take to the stage in a coveted slot at this year's Royal Variety Performance. Last in the series. **10.05** ITV News: Weather. **10.20** Les Dawson Forever. A tribute to the life and career of the TV comedy star, with contributions by Barry Cryer, Rick Wakeman, Johnny Vegas, Lorraine Chase, Les's widow Tracy, and his daughter Charlotte. **12.10** Great Art. (R) **1.05** My Kitchen Rules. (R) **3.00** Giletta's World Sport. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** ITV NightScreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The King of Queens. (R) **6.35** Motor Sport: FIA World Rallycross Championship. **7.30** Eat the Week. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Bake Off: The Professionals. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** Film: Eragon. (2006) Fantasy adventure, starring Ed Speleers. **5.00** Film: Johnny English. (2003) Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. **6.35** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Escape to the Chateau. Dick gets to work on the walled garden in the spring and buys a mini tractor for the job – but it may not fit through the gate. Angel designs another suite, with black walls and mosaic mirrors, and decorates the entire dining room with blossoms so a guest can make a special wedding proposal. The couple also consider the possibility of truffle farming. (R) **8.00** Bake Off: The Professionals. Liam Charles and Tom Allen present the halfway point of the patisserie contest, with the five remaining teams being challenged to prepare 24 opera slices and 24 exotic fruit roulades, before putting a modern spin on classic French pastry the religieuse. Judges Cherish Finden and Benoit Blin will then decide which duo is not going through to the next round. **9.00** The Handmaid's Tale. Offred reflects on her relationship with her mother as she navigates her way through Gilead. In Little America, Moira tries to cope with the trauma she endured. **10.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts the words-and-numbers panel game, with Sean Lock joined by Johnny Vegas, and special guest captain Sarah Millican joining forces with Rob Beckett. (R) **11.15** Naked Attraction. Dating show hosted by Anna Richardson in which two singletons choose a date from a selection of six naked people, who will be revealed to them one body part at a time. (R) **12.15** Film: The Other Boleyn Girl. (2008) Historical drama, starring Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansson. **2.10** Building the Dream. (R) **3.05** My Kitchen Rules. (R) **3.00** Giletta's World Sport. **4.25** Mobil 1: The Grid. (R) **4.50** Food Unwrapped. (R) **5.10** Fifteen to One. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wisps. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Moly. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Only the Little White Van. (R) **7.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.30** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.45** Rusty Rivets. **8.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.15** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.30** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Floogals. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Access. **10.40** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.20** Naughty Toddlers Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **2.20** Naughty Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **3.20** Disobedient Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **4.20** Most Shocking Talent Show Moments. (R) **7.00** Cricket on 5. England v Pakistan. Action from the third day of the Second Test in the two-match series. **7.55** 5 News Weekend. **8.00** The Unstoppable Flying Scotsman. During its lifetime, the Flying Scotsman has broken records, travelled the world, starred in a movie and even bankrupted its owners. Engineer Rob Bell presents the first of a two-part documentary charting the history of the world's most famous steam locomotive, looking at why it has inspired so many people and still attracts huge crowds wherever it goes. (R) **9.00** The Flying Scotsman: A Legend Reborn. Part two of two. Rob Bell reveals how enthusiast Alan Pegler saved the locomotive when British Railways announced plans to scrap it in 1962. (R) **10.00** Top of the Box 95: TV's Most Controversial Year. The 20 highest rated TV shows of 1995, including One Foot in the Grave, Father Ted, Shooting Stars, Peak Practice, Brookside, and Martin Bashir's interview with Princess Diana. **11.55** Best of Bad TV: The 00s. TV gaffes of the 2000s, a decade that saw Gary Barlow trying to act, Edwina Currie performing a Wife Swap with John McCrick and someone taking a night pop at Danny Dyer. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Traffic Cops. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways **8.00** How to Build Britain's Secret Engineers **9.00** Normandy '44: The Battle Beyond D-Day **10.00** The Jeremy Thorpe Scandal **11.00** Amazon Abyss **12.00** Civilisations Stories: The Empire **12.30** Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways **1.30** How to Build Britain's Secret Engineers **2.30** Return to Larkland **3.00** Close
ITV2
11.45 Film: The Flintstones (1994) **12.50** FYI Daily **12.55** Film: The Flintstones (1994) **1.30** Film: Planet 51 (2009) **2.35** FYI Daily **2.40** Film: Planet 51 (2009) **3.25** Film: Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **4.25** FYI Daily **4.30** Film: Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **5.30** Britain's Got More Talent Live **11.05** Britain's Got More Talent Live **11.05** Family Guy **1.00** Amazon Dadt **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 NightScreen
ITV3
11.05 Film: The Likely Lads (1976) **12.50** Film: Rising Damp (1980) **2.50** A Touch of Frost **4.50** Endeavour **7.00** Vera **9.00** Unforgotten **11.00** Wire in the Blood **1.00** Blue Murder **2.20** Liverpool **1.30** Road to Avonlea **5.05** George and Mildred **5.30** ITV3 NightScreen
ITV4
9.00 Isle of Man TT **10.00** Cycling: Criticism du Dauphine Highlights **11.00** World Rugby U20 Championship Highlights **12.00** BRDC Formula 3 Highlights **1.00** Fifth Gear **2.00** Ax Men **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
12.25 Brooklyn Nine-Nine **12.55** Young Sheldon **1.25** The Big Bang Theory **6.15** Film: The Hunger Games (2012) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Gogglebox **11.00** Gogglebox Australia **12.05** The Big Bang Theory **1.00** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **2.10** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.00** Gogglebox Australia **3.50** Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (2012) **1.00** Ponyo (2008) **3.05** Tooth Fairy (2010) **5.10** Carry On Nurse (1959) **6.50** The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (2013) **9.00** Last Vegas (2013) Comedy, starring Michael Douglas. **11.05** Prometheus (2012) Sci-fi thriller, starring Noomi Rapace. **1.30** The Paperboy (2012) **3.45** Close

ADVERTISEMENT

'One-stop' dental services have Lynn

Singing for joy



Practice principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS Eng (GDC 108353) with patient Lynn Jones.

LYNN Jones lives life Lat a hundred miles an hour, her days punctuated with gardening in her village home, classes for Pilates and keep-fit, reaching for the high notes in her local Sing for Fun choir and planning her next holiday. "I can't sing, but its an hour-and-a-half of pure joy," she declares. Admitting to being only the slightest bit older than her 70th milestone, she is the perfect example of all that's great about British country life retirement. Intelligent, full of energy

and laughing easily, she admits to being driven to do things – lots of things. "Life is for living and Keith [husband] and myself embrace retirement. I'm always on the go, I've always got something on and I need things with me to be right," she says. Her conversation is light and shares with an eager enthusiasm plans for a month's adventure in Canada. "We want to do the whole thing... Vancouver, Banff, the glacial lakes, the Rockies," she adds.

Unaware

But as she relaxes in the rest room at North Street Dental and Implant Clinic, her upbeat demeanour momentarily changes. "I'm very difficult to live with when my teeth are not right. Just as the rest of my health needs to be right, so do my teeth. Isn't that right, Keith!" she declares. Lynn was unaware of problems with her teeth until a regular check-up revealed an upper prosthetic, secured on four mini implants, was not seating correctly. She was originally

refused to the dentist who had undertaken the implant work. "Unfortunately he had retired," adds the former media employee and member of a public partnership that contributed to the BBC's purposes remit. "It was my neighbour who recommended I should see Steven Burchell after his wife had received implants at the clinic," she recalls. Unexpectedly, Lynn found further approval while waiting for a delayed homebound flight at the Palma Airport, Majorca. "Sitting next to us was a lady just making conversation. I asked how far she had to travel after the plane landed and said she lived in Dudley. I mentioned that I was due to see a dentist there. "Right away she asked 'would that be Steven Burchell?' "That's where I go," she added.

Principal Steven DipCDT RCS(Eng) GDC 108353, adds: "We will not carry out any non-essential surgical procedure and there was no need to replace the mini implants. "We did, however, provide a new prescription for both upper and lower prosthetics and the outcome is a very happy one with natural aesthetics and excellent function." Praising the "complete appointment" experience, Lynn explains: "I was able to see Owain [clinical lead dentist], have time with Sophie the hygienist, see Steven Burchell and Steve [Morris, advanced dental technician] to get the prosthetics professionally cleaned. It's an invaluable service and for someone like me, who could be travelling for more than an hour to get here "The service I have received has been excellent and worth every penny," she says.

“The service I have received has been excellent and worth every penny.”

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Killer in Paradise, Channel 5, 3.20pm
 While on a dream vacation with her husband, a woman becomes a target after she starts to suspect one of the island's locals may have committed multiple murders. Thriller, starring Jackie Moore, Barbie Castro, Brian Gross, Jordi Vilasuso, Brian Patrick Clarke and Jacy King. (2018)

TUESDAY
Escaping Evil: Saving My Children, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 Erin believes that she has left her Mob ties behind after being placed in a witness protection programme. However, the man she thought she had killed turns up under an assumed identity and bent on revenge, meaning she must protect her new life and her family. Thriller, starring Mia Kirshner and Paul McGillion. (2014)

WEDNESDAY
Seduced by a Stranger, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A single mother's life is turned upside down when an international conman Martin to her neighbourhood. Thriller, starring Chandra West, Steve Bacic and Kate Sproule. (2017)



Bend It Like Beckham, Friday, ITV, 10.45pm

THURSDAY
Girlfriend Killer, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A businesswoman who creates the perfect marriage proposals for wealthy men, becomes the target of a crazy client's obsession when she shows him compassion after his girlfriend publicly rejects him. Thriller, starring Dina Meyer, Corin Nemec and Barbie Castro. (2017)

FRIDAY
Bend It Like Beckham, ITV, 10.45pm
 An English schoolgirl tries to hide her passion for football from her strict Indian parents, knowing they disapprove of her tomboyish love of the game. However, when a semi-professional player sees her in action, she is offered a place on a team, forcing her to come up with a complex plan to keep her sporting career under wraps. Comedy, with Parminder Nagra, Keira Knightley, Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Juliet Stevenson and Shaznay Lewis. (2002)

Acclaimed drama makes a welcome return to the screen

Following a successful six-part first series, the acclaimed school drama, returns.

Set in a fictional Yorkshire mill town, Ackley Bridge follows the trials and tribulations at a new academy made up from two formerly isolated comprehensives - one predominantly white and the other Asian.

Predictably, the educational experiment in multiculturalism hasn't always gone to plan, and neighbours and best friends soon found themselves on different sides of a racial divide.

"Do they think they can keep us quiet with a lick of paint and some cr*p about learning to live together?" the show's most entertaining if not likeable character Jordan memorably asked, after breaking into the school office.

As well as the whole education integration topic, there were plenty of other weighty topics covered in Ackley Bridge's first season.

Dubbed the new Waterloo Road and also drawing comparisons to

Shameless when it first aired, it got off to a bang with a girl posting a nude selfie of her mother online, while other subjects tackles included religious prejudice, bullying and a major death.

The second series gets under way tonight as, in a bid to disguise her sexuality, Nas (Amy-Leigh Hickman) agrees to a sham engagement with Naveed (Gurjeet Singh) - who is also in the closet.

However, as she reels from the discovery of a family secret, Nas struggles to continue the lie and emotions run high at the family engagement dinner.

Headmistress Mandy (Jo Joyner) is still under pressure from wealthy school sponsor and Head of Academy Trust, Sadiq (Adil Ray).

Both the Year 7 intake and exam results have plummeted, forcing her to instigate a strict academic regime that causes uproar among staff and students alike.

English teacher Emma (Liz White) and Mandy's friendship is tested when they clash over the decision

and Emma allows the students to protest.

Emma also has affairs of the heart to deal with, and on the day of Sami's (Arsher Ali) wedding, she struggles to hide her feelings for him.

Finally, Missy (Poppy Lee Friar) and Nas cause trouble for Jordan when they steal his drugs money. Will the cocky lad finally get his comeuppance?

Joining the cast for this new series is Kimberly Walsh.

The Girls Aloud singer, who has had small roles in Disney series The Lodge and Horrid Henry: The Movie, plays home-wrecking netball teacher Claire, who is also the ex-wife of Paul Nicholls' character Steve.

Walsh said: "It was so much fun appearing as Claire. It's a fantastic show with a brilliant cast. It was an honour to be part of it."

"Claire is quite different to other characters I've played in the past. She is sassy and strong and comes to blows a few times with Mandy, which was really fun to play."



Ackley Bridge, Wednesday, Channel 4, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

they encounter a local crime boss and a band of mercenaries in a village near the site where a group of school girls were abducted. 2 Section step in to help the local authorities track down the girls, but Georgie unwittingly places herself and her comrades in danger.

WEDNESDAY
Great Rail Restorations with Peter Snow Channel 4, 8pm

New series. Peter Snow and Henry Cole visit projects across the country where teams of restoration experts are attempting to restore historic railway carriages to their former glory. The first stop is the stunning Vale of Llangollen in North Wales, to visit a 1912 carriage designed by Sir Nigel Gresley, the creator of the Flying Scotsman, where Henry explores how the emergency cord was invented and learns how rail travellers coped before toilets were introduced on trains.

Grenfell: The First 24 Hours ITV, 9pm

In the early hours of June 14, 2017, a blaze broke out at Grenfell Tower in west London, claiming 72

lives and injuring many others. ITV is marking the approach of the appalling tragedy's first anniversary with this moving documentary in which survivors recall the events of that terrible night, one that rocked not only the local community, but the entire country. The programme charts exactly what happened, from the first report of the fire to the London Fire Brigade getting it under control 24 hours later. Among those featured are residents Clarita Ghavini, who was found by a neighbour, and Sammy Wordy, who remains haunted by the screams of a woman trapped inside. There's also testimony from a firefighter who rescued nine people that night.

THURSDAY
Supershoppers Channel 4, 8pm

New series. The consumer advice show returns with Anna Richardson and Sabrina Grant providing the lowdown on

favourite brands and retailers, as well as tips on how to get the best deals. They begin with a look at retail giant John Lewis, investigating whether its famous price promise can always be trusted. There is also an undercover report from a major UK high-street chain catching sales staff giving shoppers suspect advice. Plus, reports on what goes into dairy-free milk drinks, supermarket value brands and which batteries last the longest.

FRIDAY
Cruising with Jane McDonald Channel 5, 9pm

For some people, this entertaining travelogue used to be something of a guilty pleasure, but now it's won a Bafta (the first in Channel 5's history), there's no need to hide your love of Jane McDonald any longer. And for newcomers who are wondering what all the fuss is about, this two-part special is the perfect place to start. It finds Jane exploring Australia and New Zealand, beginning with an open-top bus tour of Sydney and a trip to the Opera House, where she finds herself centre stage. Then it's on to Tasmania, where the presenter meets the staff and furry inhabitants of a wildlife sanctuary, before she heads to New Zealand and Milford Sound, which lives up to its billing as the wettest place on Earth.



Our Girl, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

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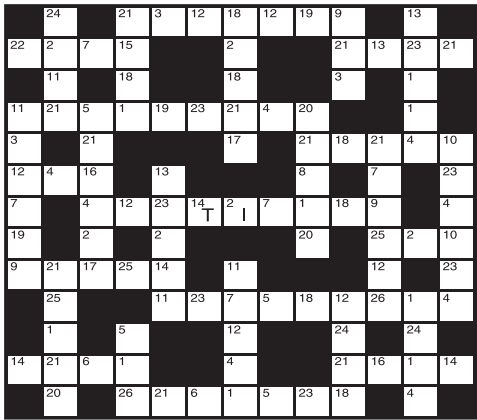
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BRAIN GYM

No.482

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14	T
2	15	I
3	16	
4	17	
5	18	
6	19	
7	20	
8	21	
9	22	
10	23	
11	24	
12	25	
13	26	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

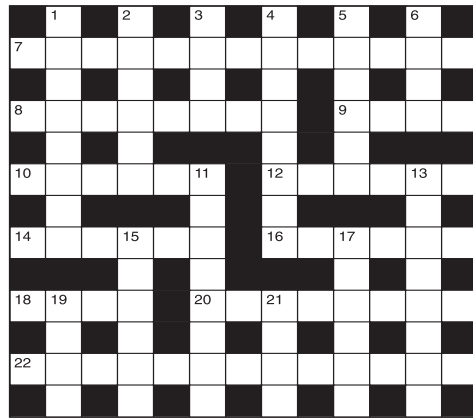
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
D	E	M	O	A	X	F	H	R	J	T	P	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
I	L	Q	Z	W	S	C	B	G	U	N	K	Y

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

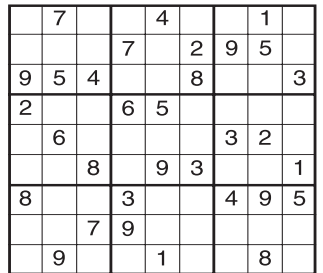
- Across**
7. Marksmen who have meteoric careers? (8,5)
 8. Insect with a lot to learn (8)
 9. Where to put money to work (4)
 10. Stays to give personal support (6)
 12. Do real results come from such a testing experience? (6)
 14. A wild horse on land (6)
 16. Eagerly Len rummaged about in the locker (6)
 18. Yet she may be a hit with the boys (4)
 20. It's rash returning yet has some worth inside (8)
 22. It offers protection to buyer and seller alike (7,6)
- Down**
1. Find her with nothing on in beds, smoking them? (8)
 2. They don't like gooseberries (6)
 3. It's not evident the plaintiff has a quarrel (4)
 4. Not a pretty sight on the face of things (4,4)
 5. Tasted differently, it's said (6)
 6. A test for which there is something to be said (4)
 11. What scores of young people are in? (8)
 13. Hub-hub (4-4)
 15. Love duets freshly turned out (6)
 17. Slips in proofs of humanity? (6)
 19. A club with lofty aims (4)
 21. This reminds me to go to the doctor (4)



Quick Clues:

- Across**
7. Scrupulous (13)
 8. Valuer (8)
 9. Portent (4)
 10. Acrid (6)
 12. Character (6)
 14. Fault (6)
 16. Mystery (6)
 18. Close (4)
 20. Amicable (8)
 22. Dull (13)
- Down**
1. Plot (8)
 2. Aver (6)
 3. Mental powers (4)
 4. Gate (8)
 5. Equip (3,3)
 6. Entice (4)
 11. Confirmed (8)
 13. Disconnected (8)
 15. Scope (6)
 17. Catch fire (6)
 19. Suspend (4)
 21. Notion (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	2	1	7	5	8	4	3	6
6	8	3	4	9	2	5	7	1
5	7	4	6	1	3	9	8	2
7	5	8	3	2	9	1	6	4
3	6	2	1	4	7	8	5	9
4	1	9	8	6	5	7	2	3
2	3	5	9	7	1	6	4	8
1	4	7	2	8	6	3	9	5
8	9	6	5	3	4	2	1	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Ebbs; 8 The marines; 9 Playmate; 10 Sofa; 12 Moment; 14 Tremor; 15 Stream; 17 Castle; 18 Eric; 19 Tent-pegs; 21 Elasticity; 22 Sash. **Down:** 2 Bill-poster; 3 Stay; 4 Repast; 5 Talent; 6 Minsters; 7 Asia; 11 Footlights; 13 Exercise; 16 Metric; 17 Candid; 18 Ewer; 20 Pays.
QUICK - Across: 1 Feel; 8 Answer back; 9 Ladybird; 10 East; 12 Marine; 14 Devise; 15 Middle; 17 Sudden; 18 Snag; 19 Browbeat; 21 Mountebank; 22 Ekas. **Down:** 2 Excavation; 3 Lady; 4 Aspire; 5 Headed; 6 Observed; 7 Skit; 11 Sustenance; 13 Indigent; 16 Emblem; 17 Slogan; 18 Same; 20 Bake.

Quiz

1. Who became South Africa's first executive state president in 1984?
2. Which increasingly-common medical condition is treated with a bronchodilator?
3. From which flower is orrisroot obtained?
4. Of which bird is the ptarmigan a variety?
5. Who is the Greek counterpart of the Roman goddess Pax?
6. Which school featured in a series of films by Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat?
7. Who founded the Society of Friends?
8. When was the Domesday Book completed?
9. To which church do the Moonies belong?
10. Which choirboy had a hit with Walking In The Air?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Santiago; 2 Greenpeace; 3 L Ron Hubbard; 4 England and Scotland; 5 John Grisham; 6 Lockjaw; 7 Ottorino Respighi; 8 Cyclades; 9 Elaine Paige; 10 Graham Greene.
Niner: UNLATCHED

Niner

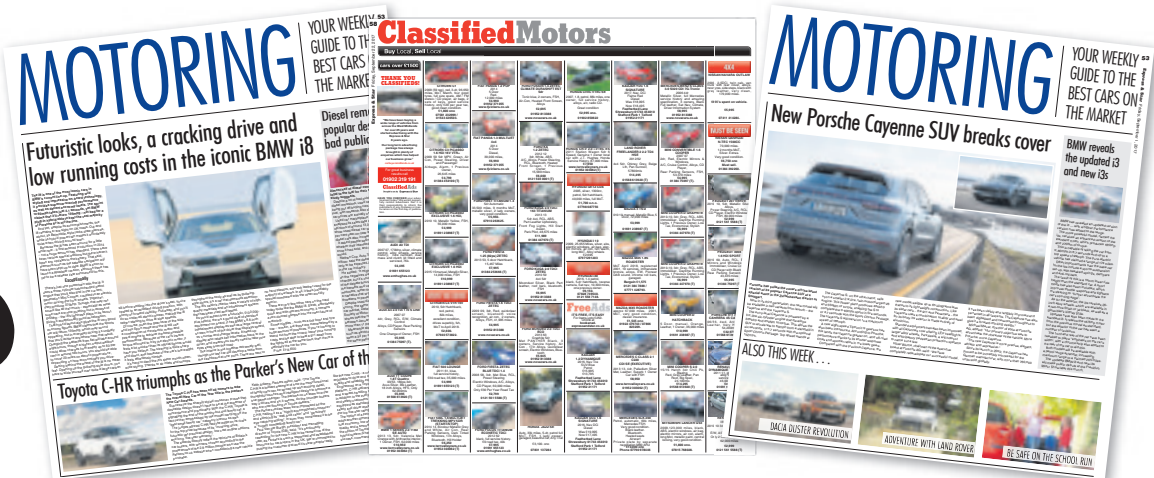
Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

4563123 gives a sorcerer,
956167 gives a second sorcerer,
274567823 gives a third sorcerer.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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Star quality Ivy really grows on you

LAVISH doesn't come close. The new 155-seat, three-floor, The Ivy restaurant at Birmingham's Temple Row, which opened in April, is the acme of style.

Created by the group behind the world-famous celebrity haunt of the same name in London, it's been the most eagerly-anticipated restaurant opening in the Second City this year.

Leather banquettes in a dreamy shade of burnt orange mix with plenty of green palates and stunning Art Deco glass, lights and artwork to create a venue that's part-restaurant, part-art-installation. It is, in a word, stunning.

Oozing wow and housed in the former Louis Vuitton boutique, The Ivy has the same sort of luxury that the designer label provided, though without prohibitive prices. Sophisticated but relaxed, classy but informal, it's a real Bobby Dazzler that offers customers the sort of food that people like to eat – rather than pretentious dishes designed to impress.

COMFORT

And so, for instance, the menu features such brilliant comfort food as The Ivy shepherd's pie – it's on my list for my next visit.

Prices are reasonable. Diners expecting to shell out the price of a top-class meal in London, will be surprised to find they can fork out just £21 for a three-course set menu. Expect accessible, brasserie-style eating with great value – but with added glitz and glamour.

With such glamour on every level, it's important that the staff provide service that sizzles. And, happily, they do. The venue offers an all-encompassing menu, serving British classics from dawn until dusk, including breakfast, elevenses, weekend brunch, lunch, afternoon tea, light snacks, dinner and cocktails.

Catch it if you can – the rare sesame-coated tuna



Convivial dining – in beautiful surroundings



My partner and I ate on the second floor, taking a quiet corner seat where we had a view across part of the city and the rest of the dining area. It was stunning. As, indeed, was the food. She started with a tempura prawn number. It was delightful.

My starter was equally accomplished and offered dizzying flavour. A warm crispy duck salad.

Our mains were equally accomplished. She ate a whole grilled lobster with garlic and parsley butter, watercress and thick cut chips. My main was another classic; a seared Yellowfin tuna salad.

We skipped dessert. Though the classic selection featuring crème brûlée and apple tart fine all read well, we'd got a date with a rock star on the other side of town and didn't want to be late. The Ivy did, however, do more than enough to persuade us to return. Classic dishes, plenty of choice, good skills from the kitchen, engaging service and decent prices were duly noted – though, in truth, it's the venue itself that has star quality.

The Ivy, in London, is one of Britain's great gastronomic institutions and looking to replicate the Covent Garden joint in Birmingham was no easy task.

The original has a near 100-year history and welcomed such guests as Sir Laurence Olivier and Sir John Gielgud, Benedict Cumberbatch, Tom Cruise, Nicole Kidman, Madonna, David and Victoria Beckham, Angelina Jolie, Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ian McKellen and James McAvoy.

The Birmingham one might not feature a cast quite so starry. Nonetheless, those behind the impressive launch can tick the box reading: Mission Accomplished. For The Ivy Birmingham is hands down the best new launch in the city in recent years.

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

27
Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 31, 2018

Well-presented modern home on sale with no chain

A well presented modern three-bedroom detached house in a well established and popular residential area, 141 Sedgley Road, Woodsetton, is for sale through Wakeman Estate Agents at £177,500 with no chain.

It is positioned close to a wide range of amenities and within easy reach of Sedgley and Dudley together with access to surrounding centres.

The house has double glazing and gas central heating and comes with a detached garage situated at the rear, which is accessed via Woodsetton Close.

In more detail it has a ground floor entrance hall with stairs off and a cloakroom off, a lounge with a brick fireplace housing a gas living flame gas fire, a coved ceiling and an archway leading to the dining room.

The kitchen has a single drainer inset sink top, base cupboards, wall cupboards, a drawer unit, work surfaces, part tiled walls, a Beko electric oven, Belling electric hob with an extractor hood over, plumbing for a washing machine, a coved ceiling and a store/pantry off. A door to the rear gives access to the front and rear gardens.

The first floor landing has access to the roof space and a built-in cupboard housing a Worcester gas fired condensing combination central heating and hot water boiler. Bedroom one has a window to the rear. Bedroom two is positioned to the front. Bedroom three is positioned to the front and has a built-in wardrobe and a cupboard.

Having been re-fitted, the bathroom has a panelled in bath with a Triton Enrich shower over and a shower screen, a pedestal wash hand basin, low level WC and tiled walls.

Outside the garage has an up and over door and electric light and power. There is additional parking in front of the garage. The front garden has lawn and brick block paving for parking.

WOODSETTON £177,500



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Three-storey home in select cul-de-sac

ALBRIGHTON

A very attractive detached residence, 9 Long Croft, Albrighton, lies in a select cul-de-sac within walking distance of the village high street and railway station.

Conveniently placed to access the wide range of local amenities, it is for sale through Bartlams Estate Agents at £439,950.

The house has surprisingly spacious three-storey accommodation, eminently suitable for comfortable family occupation and attractively presented with an especially high standard of appointment.

It has an entrance hall, a cloakroom/WC, a large lounge, a separate dining room, a stylish breakfast kitchen, plus an adjoining laundry, four first floor bedrooms (two en-suite) and a bathroom.

Contact Bartlams on 01902 759888.



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PENN
£249,950



In a choice cul-de-sac position, 27 Foxlands Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton, is a four-bedroom property that has been extensively extended and refurbished.

In a sought after location it is for sale through Thomas Harvey at £249,950.

It has a porch, entrance hall, a front sitting room, a charming living room, a double glazed conservatory, an L-shaped breakfast kitchen with a smart suite of matching grey units and a utility cupboard.

There's a contemporary bathroom and three bedrooms.

The property has a garage, a good sized driveway, a private rear garden with an extensively landscaped terrace, gas central heating and double glazing.

Contact Thomas Harvey on 01902 758111.



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SEDGLEY, Catholic Lane

Enviably situated within level distance of Sedgley's amenities etc. A detached residence accommodation includes reception hall, dining room with bay, 22'5" lounge, breakfast kitchen. Gallery landing, FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS, reappointed bathroom, further separate toilet, garage, utility room, extensive sheltered grounds. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £475,000



TIVIDALE, Oakham Road

Occupying a generous corner position on the highly sought after Oakham Road, this wonderfully presented DETACHED family home has lots to offer. As well as having gas central heating and double glazing, this property also boasts entrance porch, hall, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility, refitted ground floor shower room, THREE BEDROOMS, family bathroom, garage, enclosed rear garden, with side garden, driveway and garden to front. OFFERED WITH NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating TBC. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £244,950



LOWER GORNAL, Thornleigh

A delightful appreciably well appointed significantly improved freehold gas centrally heated UPVC double glazed two bedroom detached bungalow with garage in quiet enviable location close to local amenities, offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Agents would particularly emphasize the superb expertly planted gardens to front and side together with a sheltered/secluded rear garden; there are fitted units to both bedrooms, reappointed modern shower room/wet room, upgraded kitchen and a spacious lounge/dining room with windows to two elevations. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £215,000



SEDGLEY, Gate Street

A truly Wonderful traditional DETACHED family home and COACH HOUSE, located within walking distance of Sedgley village and other amenities. Benefiting from being gas centrally heated and double glazed, this fantastic property also boasts entrance porch, impressive hallway, living room, dining room, breakfast-kitchen, utility, guest W/C, THREE BEDROOMS, family bathroom, garage and parking to front with stunning enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating TBC. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £309,950



KINGSWINFORD, Barnett Green

An OUTSTANDING, BEAUTIFULLY REFURBISHED and EXTENDED SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW which enjoys an impressive corner position within the sought after Paddock development offering an EXTREMELY SPACIOUS layout including THREE BEDROOMS, DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and a private garden. EPC D

No upward chain £265,000



WALL HEATH, Lynwood Avenue

Enjoying a highly sought after cul-de-sac location, close to countryside, this SUBSTANTIAL, SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME enjoys a GENEROUS PRIVATE REAR GARDEN and offers an INCREDIBLY SPACIOUS layout which includes THREE EXCELLENT BEDROOMS WITH DRIVEWAY and a GENEROUS GARAGE. EPC D

No upward chain £249,950



DUDLEY, Regency Court, Off Dibdale Road West

Milking Bank Periphery - WITH 180 DEGREE PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS - an absolutely OUTSTANDING, top floor luxury apartment (with lift access) with gated access to meticulously maintained grounds. Accommodation provides; reception hall, lounge with bay, tremendous dining kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS (Principal with wardrobes & shower room en suite), house bathroom. Two car parking. EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £195,000



BILSTON, Wellington Road Development

Initial release - development of 14 stylish gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed three bedroom semi-detached homes forming part of a small new development by Marchfield Estates Ltd. Reception hall, fitted cloaks, well equipped 'hub of the house' dining kitchen, transverse lounge; three bedrooms (principle with en suite) and a bathroom. Landscaped gardens with block paved double parking, NHBC 10 year warranty. HELP TO BUY.

£185,000



COSELEY, Turfs Hill Road, Hurst Hill

Fantastically situated with open country views to front and woodland to the back, this ideal starter home has so much to offer. As well as double glazing and gas central heating this TWO BEDROOMS property also boasts entrance porch, living room, breakfast-kitchen, utility room/ guest W/C, bathroom, rear garden and drive to front. Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £159,950



SEDGLEY, Lime Road

JUST FINISHED! RENOVATED & UPGRADED, gas centrally heated (recent combi boiler), UPVC double glazed, intermediate 'starter home' that has been 'transformed' in recent months. Set in popular district, the accommodation includes; entrance porch, reception hall, store, lounge with bay, stunning through 'hub of the house' dining kitchen, utility section, lobbies, store & w.c. THREE BEDROOMS, reappointed bathroom, gardens. EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £149,500



DUDLEY, Ripley Grove

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Meticulously maintained, Freehold, gas centrally heated, double glazed intermediate 'starter home' briefly comprising; hall, fitted cloakroom, kitchen with range of high gloss cream finish units & integrated appliances, living/dining room, store. Two double bedrooms, shower room. Delightful rear garden, parking. EPC C. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £147,000



WORDSLEY, Fairfold Lodge, Marshall Crescent

A LARGE TOP FLOOR LUXURY APARTMENT set within the sought after conversions of the Heritage buildings. The BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED layout includes TWO BEDROOMS with EN SUITE. With resident and shared visitor parking and maintained gardens and grounds. EPC E

£144,950



SEDGLEY, Hickmerelands Lane

Fabulously situated opposite open wooded area and within walking distance of Sedgley centre this semi-detached home which has plenty to offer. Comprising of gas central heating and double glazing this well proportioned family home also benefits from; entrance porch, hallway, living room, good-sized kitchen-diner, THREE BEDROOMS, family bathroom, substantial rear-garden with garden to front. Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating TBC. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £134,950



WORDSLEY, Clock Tower View

THIS MOST IMPRESSIVE ONE BEDROOM TOP FLOOR APARTMENT enjoys a superb position within Porters Lodge, forming one of the original heritage buildings, offering a GENEROUS and BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED layout, surrounded by maintained gardens including a RESIDENT/ VISITOR PARKING SPACE. EPC D

£112,000



GORNAL WOOD, New Street

Built in 1856, this stylishly presented traditional terraced property is ideal for any first time buyer. As well as being conveniently located, within walking distance to Gornal Village, bus terminal and schools, this quaint TWO BEDROOM also boasts gas central heating and double glazing as well as living room, attractive fitted kitchen, family bathroom and enclosed rear garden. This property is also offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £109,950



UPPER GORNAL, Duke Street

A wonderfully presented first floor apartment which has been conscientiously maintained by the current owner. As well as having gas central heating and double glazing this ONE BEDROOM property also has living room, fitted-kitchen, bathroom and far reaching views to front and rear. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £77,500



TIPTON, Thunderbolt Way

BUNGALOW ALTERNATIVE OPPORTUNITY - Located within walking distance of so many amenities a smart double glazed GROUND FLOOR flat representing a fine bungalow equivalent with reception hall, lounge with kitchen section, 2 bedrooms and a bathroom at a realistic, competitive asking price. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: D SEDGLEY

PRICE: £65,000



WOLVERHAMPTON, Sutton Court, Ettingshall Park

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Recently refurbished, superbly presented FIRST FLOOR apartment being an ideal bungalow alternative, first stop on the property ladder or even investment opportunity and briefly comprising; hall, living room, re-fitted kitchen, bathroom with separate W/C, double glazing. EPC: E SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £64,950



Four-bed property is new to the market

WEST BROMWICH
£370,000

New to the property market, this ultra modern four-bedroom detached home in Marnham Road, West Bromwich, lies on the ever popular Churchfields Estate.

It is for sale through Connells Estate Agents at £370,000.

The property features stunning living space and would be perfect for a growing family. The house includes a kitchen/diner, a large conservatory, an en-suite, guest WC, off-road parking and an integral garage.

The L-shaped kitchen/diner comes with an electric oven, gas hob, cooker hood over, plumbing for a washing machine and a door leading to the garden.

Contact Connells on 0121 525 1177.



Smart family home with three bedrooms in a popular spot

GREAT BARR
£154,950 <<<

If you are looking for a smart family home in a desirable location, then this three-bedroom semi-detached house in Curbar Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, could be the one for you!

It is for sale through loveyourpostcode.com at offers over £154,950.

Situated on a highly sought-after road within the ever-popular Great Barr, it has excellent commuting links and spacious accommodation, with viewings being highly recommended.

A porch protects the front door which opens to the entrance hall with stairs off and under stairs storage. The front reception room is the real heart of this home. There is a dining space and an open archway into the kitchen area.

Contact loveyourpostcode.com on 0800 862 0870.

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BRITISH PROPERTY AWARDS
2017
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GOLD WINNER
ESTATE AGENT IN DUDLEY



27 DUDLEY ROAD, SEDGLEY O/A £649,950

- Exceptional individual detached family home. Set within well tended walled gardens
- Spacious five bedroom accommodation over three floors
- Impressive conservatory, three reception rooms, high quality fittings throughout
- Extensive breakfast kitchen, utility room and playroom
- EPC RATING C



NEW

PLOT 8 'CHURCHFIELDS' GORGE ROAD, COSELEY
£190,000

- Large two bedroom detached house
- New small development of 8 executive homes
- Spacious ground floor with kitchen diner & lounge
- High class fittings throughout
- Under floor heating & integrated solar panels
- Off road parking for two vehicles
- EPC RATING TBC

HELP TO BUY AVAILABLE

'WOODBINE COTTAGE', 73 STOURBRIDGE ROAD, HAGLEY
£325,000

- Attractive double fronted end of terrace cottage
- Bedroom one with en-suite shower room, two further bedrooms
- Well maintained & improved double glazed accommodation
- Car parking to side of property with easily maintained rear garden
- EPC RATING D



8 HALL GROVE £169,500

- Detached house
- Three bedrooms
- In need of some updating works
- Pleasant cul de sac location
- EPC RATING E



28 JEWS LANE, UPPER GORNAL £239,950

- Modern four bedroom detached house
- Well maintained & attractively presented
- Two reception rooms, utility area & re-fitted kitchen
- Ample off road parking & level easily maintained rear garden
- EPC RATING D



7 BOUNDARY CRESCENT £187,500

- LOWER GORNAL**
- Extended semi detached house
 - Three bedrooms plus attic room
 - Sun room, bar, utility area and sauna room
 - Rear garden with decking on two levels
 - EPC RATING D



141 SEDGLEY ROAD, WOODSETTON £177,500

- Modern three bedroom detached house
- Offers well presented accommodation
- Garage situated at the rear with additional parking
- Situated in a well established and popular residential area
- EPC RATING D



45 GOODRICH MEWS £94,950

- Modern first floor apartment
- Two bedrooms
- Telephone entry system
- Two car parking spaces
- EPC RATING B



18 VICARAGE ROAD WEST, WOODSETTON £150,000

- Traditional style semi detached house
- Considerably improved three bedroom accommodation
- Two reception rooms, well fitted kitchen, re-fitted bathroom
- Ample off street parking and good sized rear garden
- EPC RATING D



37 DALESWOOD PARK, ROMSLEY £129,950

- New park home enviably positioned on a hard landscaped plot with ample patio areas
- Overlooking adjoining woodland within a semi rural locality
- Contemporary accommodation with open plan living room, dining/kitchen area
- Two bedrooms with built in wardrobes, shower room with large walk in shower
- Daleswood Park is a small park home site, designated for owner occupiers only



109 DUDLEY ROAD O/A £114,950

- SEDGLEY**
- Well presented & improved mid terraced house
 - Two bedrooms plus attic bedroom
 - Two reception rooms & enlarged kitchen
 - First floor bathroom with jacuzzi bath
 - EPC RATING E



9A RUSSELLS HALL ROAD £105,000

- DUDLEY**
- Semi detached house
 - Two bedrooms
 - L'Shaped lounge & kitchen
 - In need of improvement & updating works
 - Ideal opportunity for a first time purchaser or investor
 - EPC RATING E



45 GOODRICH MEWS £94,950

- Modern first floor apartment
- Two bedrooms
- Telephone entry system
- Two car parking spaces
- EPC RATING B

202 Wolverhampton Street, Dudley
01384 459999

wakeman-online.com



Spacious family home of character and quality

A remarkable spacious family home of character, this property in Catholic Lane, Dudley, is new to the property market.

It is for sale through Taylors at £475,000.

It is enviably situated at the 'top' end of this favoured Lane within level distance of Sedgley's amenities etc.

A first quality, significantly extended detached residence, it was initially constructed circa 1928 and subsequently extended,

DUDLEY
£475,000

transformed and upgraded to an exemplary standard.

With many period features, its accommodation includes an imposing reception hall, a formal dining room with a bay, two stores, a 22'5" lounge (with an open fire and patio doors to the garden), an extended 26'0" breakfast kitchen

with a fine range of contemporary style units.

Upstairs is a galleried landing, four double bedrooms (including a principle room with patio doors out to full width balcony with associated views), a luxurious reappointed bathroom, a further separate toilet, a large garage, utility room and extensive sheltered grounds.

To book that all important viewing, contact Taylors Estate Agents on 01902 880888.



138 LEA ROAD, PENN FIELDS, WV3 0LQ

Full modernisation required

Well located in established & popular residential area - small foregarden, open Porch, Hall, Store, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Rear Hallway, Bathroom area, Landing, Three Bedrooms Rear Garden. Epc: TBA

Guide £65,000 / £75,000

Viewing: Friday & Saturday, 1st & 2nd June, at 11.00 a.m. NOTE: Torch essential for Viewing

PLEASE NOTE: Viewing of all Lots at own risk. Viewings are at the times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule. *Please Register for Catalogue*

2, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton | 01902 710626 / 424044 E-mail: swashauctions@btconnect.com | www.kstuartswash.co.uk

K. Stuart Swash

AUCTION - 12TH JUNE 2018

'GREYSTONE CROFT 308 BRIDGNORTH ROAD, WIGHTWICK



In a magnificent setting enjoying spacious grounds with open view to front – an impressive detached house now ready and ripe for upgrade, long driveway approach, Hall large picture windows, fitted Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Sitting Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom No. 2, main Bedroom with balcony to front, Dressing Area and En Suite, Three further Bedrooms, House Bathroom, Three-Car Garage & Car Port. EPC: TBA.

Guide £420,000 / £440,000.

VIEWING: Friday & Saturday 1st & 2nd June @9.45 a.m.

71 MERRIDALE ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON



Immaculately presented & deceptively spacious. Wide Hall, fitted Cloakroom, superb Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, luxury Bathroom, Garage, attractive Gardens. EPC E53

Guide: £178,000 / £188,000

VIEWING: Friday & Saturday, 1st & 2nd June @ 10.00a.m.

Nos. 12-14 CHURCH ROAD, BRADMORE, WOLVERHAMPTON.



"Freehold Investment currently producing £19,200 pax"

Four purpose built self contained Flats, well appointed, parking to rear. EPC's: E.41, D.68. D.66 + TBA

Guide £190,000 / £210,000

VIEWING: Friday 1st & Tuesday 5th June @ 2.00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Viewing of all Lots at own risk. Viewings are at the times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule. *Please Register for Catalogue*



Suzuki's new Swift Sport supermini

Finance offers for new Suzuki Sport

Suzuki has announced finance offers for June for the new Swift Sport and available in conjunction with the June launch customer saving price of £16,499. Both PCP and HP schemes are available.

A £750 Finance Deposit Allowance (FDA) is offered for the launch month and with no further customer deposit required. If a PCP (Personal Contract Purchase) is chosen, payments are £258 per month based on a 49 month agreement with a final optional payment of £5,943 to keep the car.

Alternatively, should a customer prefer to place a deposit of £2,530 plus the £750 Finance allowance from Suzuki then the PCP monthly payments will reduce to £199 per month, again based on a 49 month agreement and with a final optional payment of £5,943. Both agreements have a representative APR of 5.9 per cent and are based on 8,000 miles per annum.

For customers who would prefer a Hire Purchase arrangement, the £750 allowance also applies and with no further deposit required. Monthly payments are £368 and the agreement duration is 48 months. Payments can reduce to £299 per month if a customer chooses to place a deposit of £2,954, again with a representative APR of 5.9 per cent.

Standard equipment for the new Sport is comprehensive and includes unique sport interior trim with semi bucket seats and red accents to the dashboard and console areas, six airbags, auto air conditioning, satellite navigation, leather steering wheel, privacy glass, DAB radio with Bluetooth and six speakers, LED daytime running lights, 17-inch wheels, body coloured door mirrors and four electric windows.

Stay connected on older Mercedes cars

Owners of older Mercedes-Benz models can now access a range of digital services through the Mercedes me Adapter app, on either a smartphone app or online, thanks to the Mercedes me Adapter. For a limited time, both the adapter – and the cost of fitting it – are completely free.



The adapter can be fitted to selected models dating as far back as 2002, including the W169 A-Class and W211 E-Class. Once the adapter has been fitted, vehicle information can be accessed through the Mercedes me Adapter app on a smartphone, or by logging onto the Mercedes me portal on a computer. Information includes fuel level and range; mileage; battery voltage; parking time; and when the next service is due. The app will also automatically save the car's parking position, making it easier to find later.

The adapter saves previous trip information, providing the distance travelled and the route taken. Customers can book their next service via the app, while having access to relevant accident and breakdown numbers.

Sally Jones, customer services director, Mercedes-Benz Cars UK, commented: "The Mercedes-Benz Adapter gives more of our customers than ever before the opportunity to benefit from our Mercedes me service. The service connects our customers with their car, allowing them access to their most important vehicle information at the press of a button."

The adapter takes five minutes to fit, and can be activated once the customer has created a Mercedes me account and the car has been linked to the account by a Mercedes-Benz Retailer.

To find out if your car is eligible, visit: www.mercedes-benz.co.uk/passengercars/being-an-owner/mercedes-me-adapter

Distinctive looks, well-priced and good blend of performance and economy

By John Griffiths

Mitsubishi's newest model has a double-barrelled name – the Eclipse Cross.

That's probably to distinguish this latest crossover from the previous Eclipse, a sports car. But it may also signal the company's hopes that it will eclipse its many rivals in the most competitive area of the car market.

It will certainly have an impact. Its price, on-road dynamics and a proven all-wheel drive system for which Mitsubishi is renowned set it apart from many of its rivals.

Prices start from £21,275 (front wheel drive only) to £27,900 for the top spec model with four wheel drive and an automatic transmission. In terms of size it sits between the companies smaller ASX and the flagship Outlander.

At present the only engine option is a 1.5 litre petrol unit, but a 2.2 litre turbo diesel will follow.

The new petrol motor is efficient, particular in terms of a car of this size. With 163bhp, it whisks the Eclipse Cross to 62mph in under ten seconds and its official (laboratory tested) fuel average is 40.4mpg. As we know, those lab test figures aren't replicated in real world driving but I was pleasantly surprised by the auto transmission test car's ability to consistently record 35mpg (much of it over the challenging roads of the Peak District).

Response

That was achieved while mainly using 'Eco' mode which does impact on performance by holding on to the higher ratios and calming the throttle response. Switch off the Eco button, though, and the Eclipse Cross quickly reveals its sportier side. You can override your economical ambitions temporarily (for a nice quick overtake, for example) by using the kickdown facility along with manual downchanges using the paddles behind the steering wheel.

Eco tends to be the quieter mode, too, with revs rarely exceeding 2,000rpm although even when pushed harder the Eclipse Cross isn't noisy – the petrol engine is sewing machine smooth and the aerodynamics surprisingly slippery for an SUV, meaning there's little wind noise.

The auto uses a sophisticated continuously variable transmission which is a bit of a gem. With eight pre-set 'ratios' for manual use it creates a simple to use but effective compromise of relaxed, relatively economical cruising with a sporty performance when needed.

Mitsubishi designed the stiff chassis and the suspension for a more rewarding and dynamic on-road drive, with none of the harshness and body roll sometimes found on an off-road capable car. That, of course, means a more relaxed driving experience and comfortable ride – as good if not better than some typical saloon cars.

If you should venture off-road (or get caught up in snow) a simple press of a centre console button engages the all-wheel drive system. There are actually three options – one



The Eclipse Cross is sleeker, less chunky than some competitors with a relatively aerodynamic front

for best economy, one to apportion torque to the wheels with most grip, and snow mode which is essentially a full-blown four wheel drive set-up.

The Eclipse Cross looks big; it's tall and comes with the high 'hip height' for easy access and command seating position for excellent visibility – two of the features which make SUV style vehicles so popular, even those without an all-wheel drive option.

But it's also sleeker, less chunky than some competitors with a relatively aerodynamic front and a particularly distinctive rear – you certainly won't miss it at night with the rear lighting cluster which wraps around the rear spoiler. This bisects the rear window, but without noticeably detracting from your view in the mirror.

The interior of the top spec Eclipse Cross 4 test car has a premium feel, with its leather-clad sports style seats (electrically adjustable) and multi-function steering wheel, with a mix of quality trim materials.

Rear seat passengers do particularly well, as you can increase the already generous legroom by sliding the 'bench' backwards by up to 200mm, and a multi-position tilt system which allows them to really stretch out and relax.

The 'bubble roof' design ensures plenty of headroom, even with the panoramic sunroof fitted to the test car.

Boot space is 448 litres, but since the rear seats also have a 60:40 split/fold facility you also have the opportunity to juggle between the needs of passengers and cargo.

Driver aids include a new and up-to-the minute touch screen controller in the centre of the dash, with smartphone and bluetooth compatibility, as well as controlling, amongst other things, the audi system.

There's also a head-up display which projects information such as speed, adaptive cruise control, speed limiter and lane departure warning onto a transparent screen nearer to the driver's eye-line – no need to look down and away from the road.

Cameras and short range lasers around the car provide help with parking in tight spots as well as blind spot and forward collision mitigation warnings – the car will brake automatically if a collision is imminent. Adaptive cruise control using a radar-based system to maintain the gap with traffic ahead.

The Eclipse Cross is competitively priced and offers more room in the cabin than many of its rivals, while outside its styling is distinctive and the new 1.5 litre petrol engine offers a good blend of performance and economy.

Mitsubishi's name is inextricably linked to two diverse sectors of the car market – performance models such as the AWD Evo and more traditional SUVs like the hard-working Shogun.

The more you delve into the engineering of the Eclipse Cross, the more you can see this how this experience is combined in the new car with its on-road dynamics, off-road capability (if you choose an AWD version), with styling and technology which are right up to the minute.

Rest well before driving long distances

Drivers need to be properly rested before setting off on long journeys, says breakdown and road safety organisation GEM Motoring Assist. The advice comes as families from across the UK are planning their summer holiday journeys lasting hours or even days.

Being tired when you're driving raises the risk of a collision, because you're less aware of what's happening around you. Your ability to react is impaired if a risky situation develops. That's why fatigue can be a factor in up to 20% of all road collisions, and up to 25% of fatal and serious crashes.

GEM road safety officer Neil Worth says:

"We want you to ensure your holiday starts the moment you close the front door and set off, but safety has to come first. If you're on a long road journey, make sure you're properly rested before you set out, and build in regular breaks on long journeys to help stay fresh, observant and aware."

"This is particularly important if you've changed your routine and are driving early or late – or even through the night – to avoid the queues."

"A fatigue-related crash is around 50 per cent more likely to result in death or

serious injury, simply because a driver who has fallen asleep at the wheel will be unable to reduce speed or change direction to avoid a collision. The consequences can be devastating."

Neil Worth warns of the tell-tale signs of driver fatigue. "There are many recognisable warning signs before you actually nod off at the wheel. These include difficulty focusing on the driving task, fidgeting and frequent yawning and rubbing. As fatigue worsens, it will be increasingly difficult to focus on driving. Accompanying this could be drifting to the left or right and an inability to maintain a constant speed."

GEM offers a few simple tips for drivers to reduce the risk of a fatigue-related collision:

- Get a good night's sleep before you drive a long journey.
- Build in time to reach your destination (or your night-stop) without rushing. Remove time pressures wherever possible.
- On long journeys, take a break of at least 15 minutes after every two hours or 100 miles. Get out of the car, do some exercise, stretch or walk. If necessary, have a caffeine drink or two to boost your alertness.



Being tired when you're driving raises the risk of a collision

- If you are driving all day, schedule a proper hour-long break in the middle of the day, as this serves to split the day's driving into two shorter and more manageable halves.
- Avoid driving alone for long distances if possible. Share the driving, and support

each other by watching for any signs of fatigue.

- Don't press on into the night. Avoid driving at times when you would be asleep.

GEM's video on understanding dangers of fatigue is available at www.motoringassist.com/fatigue

Astra gets Euro 6D-Temp powertrains

By James Parker

Vauxhall continues its move to Euro 6d-TEMP with two new engines joining its award-winning Astra range, a powerful 1.6-litre Turbo (200PS) petrol and a 1.6-litre CDTi (136PS) diesel unit. The strict Euro 6d-TEMP emissions standard, which includes real driving emissions measured on public roads, comes into force for new registrations in September 2019.

Producing 200PS and 300Nm, the 1.6-litre petrol engine with six-speed manual or automatic transmissions can power the Astra to a maximum speed of 146mph and achieve 0-60mph in just 7.3 seconds. Fuel economy is 43.5mpg (combined) and CO2 emissions are 151g/km. In order to reduce particulate emissions as much as possible, the 1.6-litre direct injection petrol engine features a close-coupled Gasoline Particulate Filter (GPF) for optimum regeneration (i.e. oxidation of the particles that accumulate in the filter).

With 320Nm of torque, the first Euro 6d-TEMP diesel engine to be introduced to the Astra range is the 1.6-litre CDTi (136PS), available with either manual or automatic transmission. It achieves combined fuel economy from 64.2mpg and CO2 emissions from 116g/km.

The engine is equipped with Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) technology for further reduction of nitrogen oxide emissions. In the SCR process, AdBlue is injected into the exhaust gas. The solution decomposes into ammonia, which is then stored on a catalyst substrate. Nitrogen oxide enters the catalyst in the exhaust gas, and is then selectively reduced to nitrogen and water.



The Astra is light, frugal and agile

Order books are open now for 1.6-litre Turbo (200PS) petrol in both Hatch and Sports Tourer body styles. The 1.6-litre CDTi (136PS) is available to order now in Hatch with the Sports Tourer body style available soon after. Prices start from £20,595 on-the-road.

The rapid transition to Euro 6d-TEMP compliance is part of Vauxhall's strategy to become a leader in vehicle emissions reduction. The next steps toward this goal are the introduction of four electrified models by 2020, including the next generation Corsa, which will also be available as a fully electric vehicle, and the Grandland X as the first plug-in hybrid from Vauxhall. By 2024 Vauxhall will become fully electrified, offering a hybrid or a battery electric version of every passenger car model.

The Astra, voted European Car of the Year in 2016, is one of the bestselling models in the Vauxhall portfolio. Light, frugal and agile, the Astra Hatch and Sports Tourer are built at Vauxhall's manufacturing plant in Ellesmere



The Astra, voted European Car of the Year in 2016, is one of the bestselling models in the Vauxhall portfolio

Port, Cheshire. Despite compact exterior dimensions, occupants in the Astra enjoy particularly generous legroom – especially in the rear. The Sports Tourer can also carry up to 1,630 litres of luggage and the extensive load area is easy to access thanks to the optional power tailgate, which can be opened and shut with a simple kicking motion under the bumper.

In addition to featuring a host of driver

assistance systems such as Forward Collision Alert with Automatic Emergency Braking and Lane Departure Warning with Lane Keep Assist, the Astra is the first car in its class to be made available with full LED matrix headlamps. IntelliLux LED Matrix Lighting on the Astra consists of 16 LED segments – eight on each side of the vehicle – that automatically and constantly adapt the length and distribution of the light beam to every situation,

without glare for oncoming traffic.

Equipment for the Astra also includes infotainment systems that can be operated by touch-screen, remote controls on the steering wheel and voice recognition. They additionally allow operation of suitably-equipped smartphones via the phone's voice-control system, such as Siri or Google, and they are compatible with both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

SUPER SAVES AT TWALL APPROVED

MANAGERS SPECIALS

	WAS	SALE PRICE	
5/15 BMW 220D XDRIVE M SPORT AUTO WHITE 18,124 MILES.....	£18,995	£18,150	14/14 MINI COOPER D 3DR BLUE 49,761 MILES.....£7,980
13/13 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AUTO SILVER 25,436 MILES.....	£8,495	£7,777	16/16 SUZUKI BALENO 5DR HATCH 1.0 RED 11,637 MILES.....£7,350
11/11 CITROEN C3 VTR+ 5DR RED 29,548 MILES.....	£5,495	£4,995	15/65 BMW 120D M SPORT 5DR GREY 26,643 MILES.....£14,995
12/12 MINI COOPER 1.6 S JCW BLACK 47,000 MILES.....	£12,495	£11,495	15/15 AUDI A3 S LINE TDI 3DR SILVER 28,395 MILES.....£14,995
14/64 ALFA ROMEO MITO 1.0 RED 8,700 MILES.....	£8,495	£7,899	17/17 HYUNDAI I800SE 2.5 CRDI 8 SEATER BLACK 13,086 MILES.....£14,995
11/61 BMW 320D M SPORT - CONVERTIBLE BLUE 47,000 MILES.....	£12,495	£11,989	12/12 MINI COOPER LONDON EDITION 20 RED 6,000 MILES.....£7,495
15/15 FIAT 500 LOUNGE 3DR WHITE 17,000 MILES.....	£7,495	£6,980	13/63 HYUNDAI I10 ACTIVE WHITE 45,576 MILES.....£4,995
15/15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4I SE 5DR AUTO GREY 21,390 MILES.....	£10,495	£9,980	07/07 SKODA FABIA 1 HTP 60 RED 68,500 MILES.....£3,250
15/15 PEUGEOT 2008 ALLURE 5DR HB WHITE 17,000 MILES.....	£10,495	£9,777	14/64 TOYOTA AYGO MOVE WITH STYLE V WHITE 45,638 MILES.....£5,995
10/60 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF PLUS SE TSI 5D SILVER 43,000 MILES.....	£7,495	£6,769	16/66 MAZDA 6 SE-L NAV D AUTO ESTATE GREY 37,833 MILES.....£14,444
14/64 MERCEDES-BENZ A180 BLUE EFFICIENCY RED 31,879 MILES.....	£13,495	£12,888	15/65 MAZDA 6 SE-L NAV D SAL RED 32,303 MILES.....£12,950
			10/60 VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 3DR 1.4 SILVER 23,981 MILES.....£4,975
			16/16 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 ACTIVE 5DR RED 10,409 MILES.....£6,995
			16/16 JEEP RENEGADE LONGITUDE ORANGE 21,797 MILES.....£11,995
			15/15 NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC DIG-T WHITE 25,453 MILES.....£13,995
			13/13 HONDA JAZZ I V-TEC EX CVT SILVER 16,237 MILES.....£8,995
			10/60 BMW X1 S DRIVE 20D SE BLACK 47,365 MILES.....£8,995
			VANS
			17/67 VIVARO 2900 L2 H1 1.6 CDTI SP BLACK 8,231 MILES.....£13,995+ VAT
			15/15 FIAT DOBLO 16V1 MULTI-JET WHITE 39,749 MILES.....£5,880+ VAT
			17/67 VIVARO 2900L2 H1 1.6 CDTI SPO SILVER 5,130 MILES.....£13,995+ VAT
			17/17 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2900 SPORTIVE SILVER 13,806 MILES.....£13,495+ VAT
			17/67 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2900 SPORTAGE SILVER 6,762 MILES.....£13,995+ VAT
			14/64 VIVARO DOUBLE CAB SPORTIVE WHITE 20,000 MILES.....£13,333+ VAT
			17/17 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2900 SPORTIVE SILVER 11,336 MILES.....£13,495+ VAT
			MOTOR HOMES
			12/12 FIAT DUCATO 40MAXI 160 M-JET WHITE 38,000 MILES.....£48,995
			08/58 MERCEDES SPRINTER 211 CDI MWB SILVER 48,500 MILES.....£25,995
			05/55 VOLKSWAGEN T 2 MOTOR HOME GREEN 25,000 MILES.....£24,995
			15/65 FIAT DUCATO MOTOR HOME WHITE 2,330 MILES.....£43,995
			07/07 CITROEN BERLINGO ROMAHOME WHITE 33,500 MILES.....£20,995
			08/08 PEUGEOT BOXER 335 MWB WHITE 25,336 MILES.....£28,995
			16/16 FIAT DUCATO 35 MULTIJET WHITE 2,000 MILES.....£39,995

Please contact Craig or Howard
T Wall Garages
 01384 282906
 www.twall.co.uk

High Street, Pensnett,
 Kingswinford
 DY6 8XB
 1 Mile from Russells Hall
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Award winning family-run business – established 1953

Motability Premier Dealer



VAUXHALL



How to improve a car's performance by 70%

The effectiveness consultancy Benchmarking recently analysed what happens when companies include press advertising in their media mix.

They looked at more than 500 econometric models, covering a five-year period and, as the table here shows, they found that adding newspapers dramatically increases the effectiveness of other media.

In the automotive sector they reviewed companies that ranged from the big spending German goliaths of the industry to medium sized independent carmakers.

And they discovered that by adding newspaper advertising to their campaigns, they cranked up their effectiveness by over 70%.

Increased effectiveness using newspapers

Retail	Automotive	Finance
2.8x	1.7x	5.7x

So, whatever the size your business or budget, get motoring into newspapers.

For the full story and more details:
newsworks.org.uk/effectiveness

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A fully qualified, professional carpenter with 25 years experience.

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Reduce heat loss by up to 75%

Also upgrade your existing double glazed units to Pilkington Energikare, it will help to reduce the amount of heat lost through your windows by up to 75%, lock, handles, hinges.

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HIGH SECURITY DOOR BARRELS NOW BEING FITTED

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Unit 32 Delph Rd Ind Est (by the tank), Brierley Hill DY5 2UA

Visit our new website
www.delphglazedunits.co.uk
Mobile: 07887 520599

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Driveway/Patio Cleaning

SURFACE CLEANING SPECIALIST

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FREE QUOTATIONS

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pressurecleaniant@gmail.com
Tel: 07849 549104

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DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac Drives • Red Tarmac Car Parks • Resurfacing

5 Year Guarantee On All Work

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www.discountdriveways.co.uk

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- Tarmac • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios • Landscaping
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01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419

Web: www.acepavingsservicesltd.co.uk
Email: acepavingsservices@outlook.com

Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields, Halesowen B63 2QB

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Specialists in:
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07858 299305

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GORNAL TREE & GARDEN SERVICES

- Conifers reduced & trimmed
- Crown reductions • Tree Felling
- Turfing • Fencing • Hedge Trimming
- Jungles & gardens cleared
- Fully Insured • NPTC Qualified
- Stump removals

Call for a FREE QUOTE
07860 851 017 or 01384 830 384

ROWAN TREE AND GARDEN SERVICES

- Tree Surgeon Specialist • Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
- Hedges Pruned/Shaped • Stump Grinding/Root Removal
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01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified, Public Liability Insurance (£5 million)
All staff C.R.B. Certified

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- Wood Chipping
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- Fence Installation

Call Roger on...
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NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

- GRASS CUTTING
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- Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing
- Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared

FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS

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www.ragardenservices.net

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DG Property Maintenance & Repairs

Decorating, Gardening, Fencing Repairs, Blinds Fitted, Locks, Windows & Doors

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Call 07814 379166 or 01384 839366

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CARDINAL LANDSCAPES

West Midlands Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping

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(WEST MIDLANDS) LTD
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
ESTABLISHED 1977

- UPVC
- Windows
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- Fascia & Soffits
- Misted Window Repairs
- Gutter & Conservatory Cleaning
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FROM SINGLE TO FULL HOUSE
NO JOB IS TOO SMALL

Members of
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Fix a Home Scheme

Most DIY Jobs covered please call
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ROOFING SERVICES

One of the Leading Roofing Companies
No Job too Small, No Job too Big

- Gutters Cleaned From £15
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SPECIAL OFFERS
on all UPVC Fascias, Gutters, New Roofs/Slate Tile & Felt and Garage Roofs.

- Rubberised flat roofing
- Flat roof specialist
- Insurance work undertaken
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FREE QUOTES AVAILABLE

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SPECIAL OFFER on EPDM Rubberised Roofing

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Mobile: **07584 081228**

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MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE

Save £££

All size skips and all areas covered
Same day delivery faster than A phone call!!!

Open 7 days a week

SCRAP CARS REMOVED FOR FREE

07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56

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Local Specialists

To advertise your business and reach more than 45,000 potential customers...
Call us on: **01384 353234**
Post to: **Advertisement Department, Dudley Chronicle, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES**



Local Specialists

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11 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALL ASPECTS OF TREE MAINTENANCE & TREE FELLING, STUMP REMOVAL, HEDGE TRIMMING

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info@terrafirma-arb.co.uk
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Trees felled, hedges trimmed, stumps removed, tree reports. Fully insured.

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01902 892652
 www.wolvestrees.co.uk
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Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

You should be able to trust the ads you see.

If an ad is wrong, the ASA is here to put it right.

ASA.org.uk
 Advertising Standards Authority

Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

Funeral Directors

J.R. JONES
 Lower Gornal 01902 880040

DAINTY & DOWNING
 Dudley 01384 252772

Independent family run
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 24 hour service
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 Funerals: Adam 01902 420452
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 or Dudley, Laura 01384 263452
 www.hopcraft-funerals.co.uk
 'Proudly independent'

Lost & Found

LOST PASSPORT
 Hana Hesam Ahmad has lost her Iraqe passport. Lost between Whitmore Reans and Wolverhampton. If found please call 07550 239848.

1 Family

Elderly & Disabled

Capitol Mobility Showroom
 located in Bath St, Bilston next to Morrisons with FREE parking
MOTABILITY DEALER
 OVER 25 YEARS OF RELIABLE SALES AND SERVICES OF NEW AND USED MOBILITY EQUIPMENT, STAIRLIFTS AND ADAPTIONS. FREE HOME DEMONSTRATIONS.
01902 409929
 www.capitolmobility.co.uk

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

2 Leisure Time

Boats & Water Sports

SIT ON KAYAK Ocean Malibu 2. Includes 2 part paddles, backrests, Wet Bag, £275. 07976 220029.

Car Boot Sales

ASHWOOD CAR BOOT Sunday 6am. By Roberts Farm Shop, on A449 DY6 0AA. 0771064490 www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk

Caravans Wanted

 * All Caravans Wanted *
 * Any Age or Condition *
 * CASH * WAITING *
 * Immediate collection *
 * Call Bill on 07825 325 913 *

LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN/Motorhome for you and get the best possible price. Severn Valley Leisure, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

Caravans/Motorhomes

A BEAUTIFUL PARK NR LUDLOW 35x12 caravans from £10,000. Gym Par 3 golf, bowls, why go further? www.bcparc.co.uk 01584829433.

CARAVAN for sale, North Wales. Must go, fees paid till 2019. Quick sale, mint condition. 01745 582255.

MUST BE SEEN
MERCEDES COMPASS CARAVEL MOTORHOME

Very clean, MoT 2019, 41K miles, plus toilet, shower, cooker, fridge, solar panel, blow air heating.
 £9,500 ono
 07768 096652.

Holiday Home for sale -2017 Willerby Wrekin

BRAND NEW Limited edition, enhanced features £28,995 on a stunning 5 star park in The Welsh Marches set above the River Severn with private fishing & stunning Bowling Pavilion Nr. Shrewsbury. Will appeal to retired people & couples.
 Call Ron or Margaret
 01743 885080
 www.severnvalleyleisure.co.uk

STATIC CARAVAN
 35 X 12, with large decking, 2 bed, 8 berth, on quiet site in Mid Wales, 2 fishing pools, 20 minutes to coast, ground rent included for 2017, no age limit, dogs welcome. £7,950.
 07555 303350.

holidays

Caravan Sales

A CHOICE OF CARAVANS FOR sale from £1995 to £6995, accessory shop, service, repairs, storage. Severn Valley Leisure, Stourbridge, DY8 4HP 01384 390183 www.severnvalleyleisure.com

Self Catering Holidays

Saundersfoot Bungalow
 3 Bed, All En suite, Sleeps 8, Central heating, TV Video, Washing machine, Dishwasher, Microwave
Ring Brochure
0121 353 1575

BURNHAM-ON-SEA

Self Catering Holiday Apartments
 Disabled Facilities
 Pet Friendly
01278 794111
 www.GoSomerset.co.uk

Travel Abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED to check with any Advertisers that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE DALES
 Meadows Holidays
 Country Cottages/ Suites in Wensleydale
 "Weeks from £209 per couple"
 "Weekends just £99 per couple"
 Families Welcome
 Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or visit historic market towns with friendly Inns
 Brochure (24hrs) 01569 624145 email: ritaf@meadowholidays.com www.meadowholidays.com

mind, body & soul

Hair and Beauty

LA BELLES Weddings, events, hair, and makeup. www.labelles.co.uk 07542 184291

Music Shop

RECORDS/CDS/MEMORABILIA wanted & sold. Record shop wolves wv 1 3hr 07760168972

Sports & Leisure

CONFIDENCE GTR TREADMILL hardly used with safety features. £60. Must collect. 01902 566115. Call evenings after 5pm.

Free Ads
 IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
 To sell items upto £250.
 Online at
 bookanad.
 expressandstar.co.uk

what's on

Antique Fairs

ANTIQUÉ/COLLECTORS FAIR
 Kinver Comm Centre, Sun 3rd June and 1st July. EST 1873 Waverley. Next Book Fair Sun 17th June Refreshments. 0121 550 4381

Markets

STOURBRIDGE CAR BOOT
 At Stourbridge Rugby Club
 Open every Wednesday from 16th May
07957 399964

3 Home & Services

Antiques

WOLVERHAMPTON ANTIQUES & VINTAGE EMPORIUM
OPENING SOON
 Space Available To Traders | Parking - Cafe
 St Luke's Church, Upper Villiers St, Blakenhall WV2 4NP
 Dave 07970 444046
 @wolverhamptonantiques

Furniture

LARGE SNUGGLE Taupe leather seat, detachable cushions, unused, as new. Was £1,400 sell £250. Must collect. 07930 904273.

In Your Garden

Allmark Landscaping and Gardening Services
 • Grass Cutting • Fencing
 • Hedge Cutting
 • Garden Clearance
 • Gravel Driveways
 • Turfing and Lawns
 • Gutter Cleaning
FREE QUOTES
No job too big or small!
07963 142736

Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

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HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Items Wanted

CASH PAID NOW! WANTED TOOLS
 Hand Tools, Anything considered
01543 452 491
07539 340307

A BEST CASH PRICE



FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS
 Any gauge or age
 Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/any live steam. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
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 thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com



A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LORRIES

Britains, Corgi, Dinky, Spot on, Tri-ang, Danbury Mint and Mamod Engines.
 Best prices paid. Any condition. Collections bought.
 Telephone 01922 327897 or 07976 691563.

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

Loans

READERS ARE REMINDED that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

specialists at your service

Aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
AERIALS FITTED FOR £79.99
01902 858191 • 01384 429166
01543 439095 • 01922 716029

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"



"I am very pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising Contract"

Steve - AA Digital Aerials

For great business results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
 Brought to you by Express & Star

ALAN JONES THE ORIGINAL AERIAL SPECIALIST, THE BEST!
 Est 1955 - 59 years at the top! Recommended by thousands. Genuine, honest, 100% reliable. WE HAVE WATCHED THEM ALL COME AND GO
Call: 01902 885985 ANY PROBLEM SOLVED

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DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
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 Over 40 year exp | All work guaranteed
Free Quotes: 07837 994465
01902 579 592

Alarms/Security

PREMIER ALARMS
 Supplied and Fitted £249
 Servicing and Repairs
 12 Months Warranty
 All areas covered
 All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

Domestic Cleaning

CLEAN FOR YOU (midlands ltd)
 Domestic Cleaning & Ironing Service.
 Friendly, Reliable & Trustworthy.
 Call Anita on: 07854 163 804.

Drain Clearance

ALL DRAIN AND SEWER Blockages cleared fast. Call Fast Clean: 01902 736424.

Driveways & Patios

CRETE BY DESIGN
 Concrete Imprinting
 * BLOCK PAVING * TARMACING * RESIN DRIVES FREE QUOTES
01902 489633 (day)
or 01902 604187 (eve)

Electrical Services

A BARGAIN REWIRE, fuseboards, cctv, alarms, showers, NICEIC: 01902 842739 / 07783 471949.

ALL ELECTRICAL work from a switch to a rewire, insured, free quote 01902 575570 / 07958 827434.

ALL HOME ELECTRICS NAPIT registered. Fully insured. For a free quote call 07583 320318.

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PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
 10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards £795
 Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
 0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
 Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
 Sat 8am - 12noon
 83 Portway Rd, Wbury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
 www.portwayfencing.co.uk

ACE FENCING. A better quality panel. Supply/fit. Free quote: 31 Bank St. WV10 9DU. 01902 723910

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"



"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."

Michael-Portway Fencing

For great business results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
 Brought to you by Express & Star

Gardening Services

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

Handyman Services

LOCK & CARPENTRY plumbing, plastering, small job specialist. Call 01902 683100 or 07934 460864.

YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN

FREE QUOTES
 All work guaranteed. Most trades covered. References available on request. No job too big or too small!
CALL MIKE: 07947 621047
0121 6010479

Gas Fitting

A BOILER BREAKDOWN, COOKER, FIRE, FITTED-SERVICED-REPAIRED
 Landlord certs. All areas.
J&E HEATING
01902 562664
07969 687832

GAS SERVICES
 • Boilers • Cookers
 • Fires • Gas Checks
 • Landlord Certificates
 • Gas Leaks Traced
 Fitted, Serviced and Repaired Same Day Service
 Free Quotes
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs
Call: 01902 366855/ 07761 973975

READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.

It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

Guttering

Guttering & Roofing 25% OFF
 cleaned, repaired, replaced, fascia/soffits, UPVC washdowns, all roofing/repainting work. Free quotes. 8am-8pm
01902 722447

House Clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021

Landscaping

JD's Landscaping and Building
 Bricklaying and all paving work
 Fencing and gates
 Conservatory and porch bases
FREE QUOTES
Call John 01384 326405 or 07719 807564

Oven Cleaning

AAA OVEN CLEANING. Ovens, Hobs, Aga / Range / Micro / Extractors. 01902 689418 / 07910 921796

Plans Prepared

ADAM DESIGN. Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

Plastering

STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE
 Clean and Reliable. All Work Undertaken. All Areas. Call 0121 567 5919 / 07977 262943.

Plumbers

G M PLUMBING SERVICES Complete Bathrooms, Kitchens, Taps Showers, Blockages 07976 012468

Painters/Decorators

C I PAINTING & DECORATING Over 30 yrs experience. City & Guilds approved. Free Quotes. 07913 732556 or 01902 650716.

CALL M & B DECORATORS
City & Guilds
No job too small
Free Quote
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Express & Star

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(T&Cs Apply)



Call Claire Smith: 01902 319661
 claire.smith@expressandstar.co.uk

LOVE 2 WALLPAPER
 Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painters & Decorators
 Attention to detail, competitive prices. For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle. Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken
 01384 287577 or 07812 484194
 www.love-2-wallpaper.co.uk

Removals

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS AND HOUSE CLEARANCES

We move anything. Professional service, 45 years' experience, DFS approved and we take the stress away.

Please call: 07966 281957

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
 12 years experience.
 SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS. LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
 Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

A CHEAPER REMOVAL
 SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL REMOVALS. FULLY INSURED. 7 days.
01902 89 49 16
07807 77 30 35

Roofing

25% OFF SF ROOFING & GUTTERING
 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
 Flat, Main roofs, rubber or felt, repaired and replaced, all repointing, Guttering repaired and replaced.
BEAT ALL QUOTES GUARANTEED
 Call Sean 01902 829158 8am to 6pm

MG ROOFING
 Flat Roofing, Tiling, Roof Repairs, Fascias and Gutters.
 Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.
 www.mgroofingwestmidlands.co.uk

Rubbish Removal

LET'S TALK RUBBISH No Skips Needed, Load/Remove any Waste, House Clearance. 07969 628382

Skip Hire

AN ABSOLUTE AFFORDABLE CASTLE SKIP HIRE
 Mini, midi and large skips
 GRAB HIRE AND MINI DIGGER AVAILABLE
01384 237577
01902 405745
07719 671845

BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH!
 No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 40 years, 01384 232359.

AT M&M SKIPS
 Fast, friendly service
 All areas covered
 All sizes
 Same day service
 Freephone
0800 619 0189 / 07904 915016

STONES SKIP HIRE
 0121 557 1480 / 07886 721875
 www.stoneskiphire.co.uk

Tiling

BOBS HOME INTERIORS
 Wall and floor Tiling
 Bathrooms Fitted
 KITCHEN FITTING
 bobzgranger@gmail.com
07480 141537
 www.bobshomeinteriors.co.uk

Upholstery

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"



"I am very happy with my Express & Star and Chronicles Advertising Campaign, also by using the local directory on expressandstar.com we are seeing benefits from visitors to our website."

Gary Downes - Bilston Upholstery

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
 Brought to you by Express & Star

t.v. / home entertainment

Service

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"



"TV Link are really pleased with their response from their Classified Campaign"

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
 Brought to you by Express & Star

4 Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

Guns & Dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
 Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

UGGA GUN DOG TRAINING CLASSES (Retrievers only) held at Leighton, Shropshire. The Kinnersley Arms Inn, SY5 6RN. 8 x classes. £50. 7pm Thurs. May 31 then every 2wks. Beginners & people to shoot over their dogs. Phil 07771 617196.

Pets Corner

NOTICE TO READERS
 Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

BORDER COLLIE puppies, tri colour and black and white, excellent temperament. 07747 436737.

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
 All neutered, inoculated and microchipped.
 Call 01902 291080 or visit www.gtwolverhampton.co.uk
 Greyhound Trust Wolverhampton @gtwolverhampton

5 Business & Farming

business directory

Accountants

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES for Small Business. Competitive Rates. Call 01902 882600

Commercial Premises

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties 0121 520 5318.

Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

6 Property

Overseas Property

NOTICE TO READERS
 Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

Properties Wanted

FAST CASH FOR YOUR PROPERTY

- Repossessions stopped
- Houses bought in any condition
- Legal fees paid
- Probate Estates Welcome
- Mortgages / Loans Cleared

CASH PAID WITHIN DAYS!

0800 121 6007 **OAKWOOD HOMEBUYERS**

Friendly, local company here to help you 7 days a week. Est. 10 years.
www.oakwood-homebuyers.com

Home Cash Buyer

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££

Houses / Land Required

We also buy Commercial Property

Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**

Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
 Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
 Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

Yes! HOMEBUYERS

We will buy your house fast!

Free Valuation? Yes! Any House? Yes!
 Fast Sale? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
 No Fees? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!

FREE, GUARANTEED, instant offer today!

Call **01384 913 543**
 or text "Cash" to 66777
yeshomebuyers.com

Accommodation To Let

NOTICE TO READERS
 It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

NOTICE TO READERS
 Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

A SMART SINGLE EN SUITE room in a Shared house, Netherton. 285 p.w. inc. bills. No DSS. 2 weeks deposit. 07940 116130.

DUDLEY 2-Bed new build apartment, nice area, dss ok, deposit negotiable. Call/text 07526 140603

SINGLE PERSON flat, furnished, CH, No DSS, £85pw. Sedgley. 01902 885985.

7 Jobs

Nursing & Carers

PART TIME PRACTICE NURSE required to join our existing Nursing Team. Experience of general practice essential. Apply in writing with a full CV and covering letter.
Joanne Howell - Manager
 Keelings House Surgery
 176 Stourbridge Road Dudley
 West Midlands DY1 2ER
 Call on 01384 77194 or 07498 746633.
 and ask to speak to Jo for more details, job description and person specification.

Closing date for application: 18 June 2018.
 Interviews will take place June / July 2018.

Full Time General

HANDYPERSON / GARDENER required full time, Bewdley / Kidderminster. Full driving licence. Call John on 07518 939822.

Courses

ABK SECURITY SERVICES LIMITED
 We provide Training in:
 • First Aid / Health & Safety • Safe Moving & Handling • Security (SIA)
 Call 01299 879 015
 Email enquiries@abktraining.co.uk | www.abksecurity.co.uk

Employment Wanted

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT FCA
 Seeks part-time accountancy / bookkeeping.
 Based in Halesowen.
 07860 357143.

8 Motoring

Cars Over £1500

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Due to continued growth our client based in West Bromwich are looking to recruit for the following position

Accounts Clerk

(Initially to cover Maternity leave with a strong chance of a permanent position for the right candidate)

- Purchase ledger
- Sales Ledger / Credit Control
- Other Accounts Administration duties to support the overall tasks as required.
- Experience using Sage 50 system.

Flexible hours / days to suit.

For more information contact
Chloe on 01902 319891
 or email your CV to
chloe.davies@staremploymentsservices.co.uk

Courses

BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 September & 3-4 December
STOKE-ON-TRENT: 6-7 August
WOLVERHAMPTON: 25-26 July & 17-18 November

Accredited **ocn**

Learn how to take blood ...

TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

Introduction to Phlebotomy

- TWO DAY COURSE - Nationally Recognised
- Allied Healthcare Career Path
- Accredited (advanced) qualification
- No previous experience required

For more info. or to book online: www.geopace.com

High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

BMW 118D SPORT
 2011, 87,470 miles, alpine white, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, sports, comfort pack, new clutch 2016.
£6,250 ono.
07764 959190.

BARGAIN

CHEVROLET MATIZ
 Red,
 genuine 8,167 miles,
 2009, as new.
 Health forces sale.
 Tax £30 per year.
 3 months MoT.
£2,500.
01902 846687.



FORD B-MAX

Limited Edition, 16 plate, 1388 engine, 10,000 miles, silver metallic, black roof, black alloys, petrol, blue tooth, radio / CD, aircon, front fog lights, electric window, sliding back doors, immaculate condition.
£8,000
07788 684373.



VOLKSWAGEN T5.1

2011, 96,720 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, alarm, long MoT, metallic paint, diesel, alloys, stereo, front seat swivel to rear.
£10,000 ono.
07543 878695.



VW GOLF S SDI 2.0L
 2006.

117k miles, black pearlescent, FSH, climate control, Scirocco alloys, new tyres, new cam belt, e/w front, MoT November 2018.
£2,250 ono
07768 234576.

EXCELLENT CONDITION

VW PASSAT
2.0 TDI SPORT
 2008

Excellent condition, history. MoT, cruise control, air con.
£2,850 ono.
07976 359922.

VW PASSAT HIGHLINE
 Silver, 2010, electric windows / mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, central locking, cruise control, diesel, stereo / CD. Leather heated seats, 131k miles.
£2,200 ono.
07801 728518.

Cars Under £1500

BARGAIN

ROVER 620 Si
 Green, 77,673 miles,
 3 owners.
 MoT, part service history.
 Excellent condition.

£320 ono.
07939 101769.

SUBARU FORESTER
 2000, petrol,
 137,250 miles had engine rebuilt at 127,000, 784 miles, new clutch, cambelt, recent front discs and pads and Cat convertor,
 MOT May 2019.
£1,200
07795 001603.

BARGAIN

VAUXHALL MERIVA
CLUB 1.6

08 plate, MoT April, silver, 86,000 miles, very clean, runs and drives spot on, plus service history, PAS, CD.
£1,495 ono.
07415 013799.

LOOK

VW GOLF TDI
 2001, new turbo, 12 months MoT, good condition for year.
£950 o.n.o.
07542 146679.

Driving Tuition

AMAZING OFFER 5 lessons £50, 10 lessons £100. £21 an hour there after. Call now 07858 051263.

Motorbikes



FOR SALE
YAMAHA VIRAGO 250CC
 Circa 2000, as new, only 3,125 miles, MoT till Oct 2018.
£1,295 ono.
07870 860705.

Scrap Vehicles

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
 1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD., WV1 2TZ

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT
 Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or **0121 557 0400**, Oldbury Area.

A BETTER PRICE for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
 Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

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 Salvage & Recovery
 • SCRAP CARS WANTED
 • FREE COLLECTION
 • TOP PRICES PAID
 Fully Licensed • C.O.D Issued
 No Fines • No Comebacks
 1000's of vehicle parts in stock
 01902 871111 • 07722 240819
 07895 346811
www.mainlinesalvage.co.uk

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
 1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD., WV1 2TZ
 OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

spares & accessories

Clutches/Brakes/Gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE
Renault Scenic, Vauxhall Zafira, Renault Clio, Ford Focus & KA and MANY MORE!!
Ring for quotes
30 yrs experience
ALL AREAS COVERED
Call Bob
01384 251328
07972 169554
anytime

Vehicles Wanted

CROWN MOTORS
Guaranteed best price for your unwanted cars and vans
07903 549849
buyer will call

9 Local Information

Public Notices

PUBLIC & LEGAL NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 319694 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

If an ad is wrong, the ASA is here to put it right.

ASA.org.uk Advertising Standards Authority

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE

An application to vary a premises licence has been made by Wayne Penn and Jason Penn to South Staffordshire District Council in respect of premises to be known as The Crooked House, Coppice Mill, Dudley, West Midlands DY3 4DA.
The application is as follows: (Indoors and outdoors)
1. To enable the retail sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises, every day of the year, Monday to Sunday 0900-0200 hours.
2. Plays, Films, indoor sporting events, live music, recorded music, performance of dance or anything of a similar nature 0900-0200 Monday to Sunday every day of the year
3. Late night refreshment 2300 -0200 hours Monday to Sunday every day of the year
4. Premises open to the public 0900-0230 hours Monday to Sunday every day of the year
Any representation by responsible authorities or any other person regarding the application must be made in writing to the Licensing Officer, South Staffordshire District Council, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, Staffordshire WV8 1PX by the 20th June 2018.
Persons wishing to view the application may do so by contacting the licensing unit on 01902 696250 email: licensing@staffs.gov.uk
It is an offence liable on summary conviction of a fine up to level 5 (5,000) on the standard scale to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with the application.
Dated: 23rd May 2018

10 Personals

Personal
GENTLEMAN
59 years, n/s, fit, active, WLTM classy lady for friendship and fun.
Box Number C21197,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE 69
Divorced, 5ft 10, slimish. Likes sports, DIY, countryside. WLTM, slim lady who is loving and caring.
For long term relationship. Genuine replies only.
Box Number P21200,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 1ES.

ADVERTISEMENTS CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

- Midland News Association Limited** All publications in this group are published by the Midland News Association Limited, registered office Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES ('the Company') and this is the address to which any notices should be sent.
- Acceptance** The Company will only accept advertising on these standard terms and no other contract terms or conditions will apply other than those which are implied by statute and cannot lawfully be excluded. In particular the Company will not accept advertising on the basis of advertiser's terms and conditions.
- Content of Advertisements** All advertisements must be legal decent honest and truthful. Advertisements must comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes under the general supervision of the Advertising Standards Authority. Advertisements must comply with the requirements of all current legislation including but not limited to the following:- All advertisements must clearly differentiate between trade and private advertising as required by the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must comply with the Consumer Credit (Advertisement) Regulations 1980. All descriptions of goods must be accurate and in no way infringe the provisions of the Trades Descriptions Act 1968. Advertisements must not contain any material which is defamatory. You must have permission to use any material contained in your advertisement and must not infringe the copyright moral rights or any other right of any third party. The Company reserves the right to refuse to carry any advertisement or to require amendment of any advertisement in its absolute discretion.
- Appearance of Advertisements** Whilst the Company makes every effort to comply with requests, publication on a particular date or in a particular position cannot be guaranteed. The Company reserves the right to alter, suspend, cancel or reject an advertisement at its discretion even after the same has been accepted for publication without being liable to compensate you. You will not be charged for any advertisement which does not appear. If only a part of a series of advertisements appears you will only be charged for the advertisements in the series which actually appear. The Company does not guarantee the publication or extent of supporting editorial and your obligation to pay for advertising will not under any circumstances be dependent upon the appearance or content of editorial. No liability will be accepted for non-appearance of editorial. The Company does not guarantee that advertising will not appear for similar or the same subject matter to your advertisement and no liability shall be accepted as a result of such advertising appearing. It is the advertiser's responsibility to provide any amended copy, whether by electronic or other format, and the Company does not guarantee that it will be able to or will agree to modify, amend or alter any file or copy supplied to it.
- Liability** The Company's liability for any loss or damage caused by any error or omission in the advertisement or any other breach of contract shall not in any circumstances exceed a full refund of any price paid by the advertiser to the Company for the publication of the advertisement or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of the same type as that which originally appeared. Where a series of advertisements is booked the Company's liability shall not in any circumstances exceed the value of the first advertisement in the series. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the publication of the advertisement the Company will either re-publish the advertisement or the relevant parts of the advertisement or make a reasonable refund of or adjustment to the cost of the advertisement. If the error does not materially detract from the advertisement then no re-publication, refund or adjustment will be made. It is the advertiser's responsibility to check the content of advertisements and the Company will not accept any liability for loss or damage, or obligation to re-publish or make a refund or adjustment, arising from re-publication of an advertisement containing an error, misprint or omission which has not been identified by the advertiser after first publication.
- Box numbers** The Company accepts no liability for loss or damage caused by delay in forwarding or omission to forward to the advertiser replies to Box Numbers. Box Numbers must not be used for sending goods, distributing circulars or communications from agents. The Company reserves the right to open and inspect all replies to Box Number and to destroy goods, circulars or communications from agents which are discovered during an inspection.
- Inspection** The Company shall be entitled at any time to inspect any goods or services advertised and may decline to carry further advertising if such inspection is not permitted or if in the Company's opinion the provision of further advertising facilities is not appropriate in view of the nature or quality of the goods or services.
- Indemnity** The advertiser, including any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement, warrants that it has permission to use for publication by electronic and printed means all material which is included in the advertisement. The advertiser and any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement agree to indemnify the Company in respect of all charges, costs, claims or damage arising out of the publication of the advertisement, whether the same result from actual or threatened legal action or from some other cause.
- Cancellation** On a request for cancellation or amendment of a classified advertisement being accepted, you will be given a cancellation or amendment number which must be quoted in all subsequent correspondence. Payment of the originally agreed price will be required in full for any advertisement in relation to which the advertiser is unable to supply a valid cancellation or amendment number. Cancellation can only be accepted if the Company is notified of the cancellation by no later than the following deadlines:-
Lineage, Semi Display - By no later than 6.30pm on the working day prior to publication. Advertisements to appear on Monday must be cancelled by 10 am on the preceding Saturday
Classified Display - By no later than 24 hours before the date of publication
Colour/Features - By no later than 10 clear days before the date of publication
To cancel Lineage, Semi Display and Classified Display advertisements please telephone 01902 317878. To cancel Colour/Features advertisements please speak to the Representative through whom the advertisement was booked.
- Rates** Advertising rates are as laid out in the Company's current rate card which is available on request from the Company's offices. The rates may be varied from time to time in the Company's absolute discretion and without prior notification of the intended variation. The revised rate will be charged for any advertising ordered after the date of variation.
All gross advertising rates except classified lineage and semi-display are subject to a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance levy payable by advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.
- Payment** The Company reserves the right to require pre-payment as a condition of any advertisement being published. Where pre-payment is not required unless different credit terms have been agreed with the advertiser in writing payment must be made within 14 days of the date of issue of the Company's invoice. An additional £2.00 booking charge will be payable if the invoice is not paid in full within this 14 day period.
Any additional credit facilities which are offered are at the Company's absolute discretion. The advertiser's liability shall be for the full amount of all advertising ordered and shall not be limited to the amount of any credit limit which the Company may impose.
Payment may be made by [method] cash, cheque or credit/debit card. The advertiser's obligation to pay for other items on an account shall not be affected by the existence of any query over an individual item within that account.
- Data Protection Act** The advertiser's details will be retained by the Company for the purposes of administering our accounts records and so that the Company may notify the advertiser of future advertising opportunities which may be of interest to you. By placing advertising with the Company the advertiser agrees to your details being used for this purpose.
- Applicable Law** These conditions of acceptance shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

Express & Star DATING
Here's how to use your dating service...
To Place your advert call: **0844 381 5936** Simply text REG followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to 80098 FREE Standard Network rates apply. **GET 10 SMS CHAT CREDIT**
To Reply to members call: **0906 500 3955** calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.
Have the adverts e-dit box no written down and do key-in it promptly when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.
You can now **Date ONLINE** or via your mobile just visit: **http://dating.expressandstar.com**
THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet you... visit... **http://dating.expressandstar.com**

Single Women
REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.
SARAH, 55, single, 5ft10, blonde hair, blue eyes, I've been a widow for the past 6 years, looking to meet someone genuine, caring and who is looking for someone special in their life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431213
CAROLINE, 42yrs, sophisticated professional lady, bored with chaps from work, hoping to meet a burly workman! Come on lets have some discreet times. Txt me. Text Only. Box: 4164576
SUE, 48yrs, petite blonde, curvy size 8, outgoing, cultured, enjoys cosy night cuddles, seeking loving male to make me feel special. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431229
PHILIPINA, Asian lady, 32yrs. Respectful, kind with boyish figure. WLTM mature strong minded man. Looks unimportant but must be mainly. Text only. Box: 4161491
PAM cuddly feminine young looking female, OHAC, financially secure, looking for fun times without complications with likeminded male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431165
MARRIED lady 39yrs wlm discreet gent for those intimate little extras. Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box: 429851
MEGHAN, married, bored, looking for some excitement. I am 48yrs attractive with a curvy figure, blonde hair and well dressed. Hoping to meet chap of any age for discreet meetings. Text only. Box: 4132478
CATHY 42yrs, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431147
JANETTE, black lady, 52yrs, kind, romantic with very good sense of humour/fun. Hoping to meet a kind white man for romance, fun and passionate times. Text Only. Box: 4086142
JULIE, 47, blonde hair, brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, seeks male 45-60 for TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431053
SALLY, sensual slim blonde seeks no strings discreet man 35+ for daytime meetings. Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box: 431241
LYN 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 429808
SUSIE, married, adventurous/dominant lady, 38yrs, seeks discreet man any age/area for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 431239
KAREN 41yrs, long legged blonde lady seeks no strings fun with chap of any age. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box: 430251
VERONICA, 40 and fabulous. Attractive black lady seeks white man for intimate fun & friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431129
HELEN, sophisticated, cultured lady, 30 something seeks mature man for life's pleasures. Discreet with no strings. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 430171
JOAN, 50 something black lady. Varied interests, intelligent and interesting. Hoping to meet a gent 50+ who is looking for romance and love. Lets not mess around, call me soon. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431127

GENUINE, kind & caring lady, 55yrs, feminine, romantic, loves life. Varied interests. Just missing that special someone. Call me lets chat. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431125
MAGGIE, 59yrs, single attractive lady. Hoping to meet a nice kind gent for mutual caring, warmth, romance, lets not be lonely any more. all or btm me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431123
GILLY, 39yrs, voluptuous sexy well groomed lady. Varied interests, loves mutual pampering. Looking to meet a man for mutual pleasures. Discretion assured & expected. Call me. Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box: 430249
DONNA, vivacious slim brunette, 48, lives for today, fit and fun loving, seeks active, easygoing man for companionship. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423477
JULIE, 47, blonde hair, brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, seeks male 45-60 for TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431053
DISCREET sensual and loving lady seeks man 30+ for daytime fun in her home. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 429849
SARA, 43yrs, educated independent attractive female, nervous about dating through advertising, so pls don't disappoint me by not replying. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431009
ANNA, 53yrs, attractive blonde lady, with lovely curves. Seeking man any age for no strings discreet fun. Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box: 429721
PASSIONATE slim young looking blond lady 40s who loves everything about life looking for attractive honest guy for friendship, possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430983
AMANDA, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287
JENNY 48, blue eyed, cuddly/busty independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTM older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430887
ANGELA, 48yrs, seeks no strings discreet man 35+ for own house, car and am solvent. I'm busy with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633
LINDA, attractive widow with own home & car. Varied interests, kind & caring. Hoping to meet a lovely kind gent 67+. Looking to unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430845
HARRIET 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long lets and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. ACA. Gals who a try. Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 426205
SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box 425979
VERY attractive curvy widow, longing for romance, seeking country-loving male with old-fashioned values for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430737
CARMEL, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box 426851

Single Men
JAY, looking for a really good fun lady, for date nights and great times together. So get in touch I would really love to hear from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431199
CHRISTOPHER, 48yrs, single dad. Professional, own home, hard working & kind. Just missing that special lady in my life. You must be genuine & looking for LTR/romance. Text Only: Box: 4066804
RICK, fit mature guy, 58, slim build, good looks, blue eyes, enjoys photography, fun and the outdoors, looking for a lady to share life with. Text only replies. Box No: 6239139
SINGLE male, 52, various interests, indoor & outdoor, sports, nature, country walks would like to meet busy, slim female. Text only replies. Box No: 4362337
MALE 60s, wishes to meet lady for NS fun and evenings out. Age or looks immaterial. All texts answered. Text only replies. Mailbox no: 4246416
COLIN, 51, caring, loving, seeks caring, loving, cuddly, large lady, 50-60, for LTR, love, romance. Must like kisses, cuddles and holding hands. Text only replies. Box No: 6154531
MALE, 50s slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for an attractive slim lady to call his own. Text only replies. Box No: 6223970
Hi I'm a submissive male, looking for a dominant female, I am an occasional cross dresser, looking for somebody who will hopefully understand and be nice and hopefully we can start a relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431075

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GAY attractive feminine female would like to meet other gay feminine females for friendship possible relationship. Get in touch. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6062854
MALE, 74, 6ft, white, likes football, cars and lots of things, WLTM a male. Get back to me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431203
COLIN, shy gay chap, 29yrs, hoping to meet much older gay gent for romance, mutual caring times. Text Only. Box: 4153436
CROSS dresser, retired, mid 60s, slim, very fit, well educated, passionate about the arts, would love to be wined and dined, by a man or a cross dresser. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431087
JAMES a fit 65yr bi CD in Birmingham, loveley figure when dressed. ATA Text only. Box no: 4758692
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ATTRACTIVE dark haired lady, 52yrs, kind & compassionate. Just missing a nice chap for romance. Call me, let's chat, meet up. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430949
SANDY, kind lady, 60s, attractive & young looking. Hoping to meet a nice kind gent for outings, chats and more. I will answer all calls & texts. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430955
CAROLINE, 58yrs, caring kind lady. Outgoing, slim & attractive. Hoping to meet a kind gent, looks unimportant, must be caring. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430951
ATTRACTIVE lady, 60 something. Well educated & sophisticated. Hoping to meet a nice gent to share life's pleasures. Call or text me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430947
JENNY 48, blue eyed, cuddly/busty independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTM older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430887

DAVID, 65, considered attractive, semi retired, GSOH, enjoys playing golf, eating out, drinks, socialising and travel. Looking for a lady, 60-80, who is fun to be, attractive and I hope to share happy time with. I hope you are out there. Give me a ring. Shropshire area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431181
TONY, Poet, 68, 5ft 8ins tall, looks considerably younger than my age and would love to talk to you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430583
FUN to be with male, slim with blonde hair & blue eyes, looking for that special lady. Text only. Mailbox No: 6223970
TALL mature male, submissive, seeks dominant female. Age immaterial, for relationship and fun. Text only. Mailbox No: 4214961
WIDOWER, 65, retired, looking for that special lady, age and looks unimportant, for meals out, days out and to spend some quality time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431155
MALE, 53, 5ft10, medium build, widowed, looking for a nice lady for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431015
MALE, 60, 5ft18, short greyish hair, enjoys most things in life, hiking, walking, cinema, theatre. WLTM a similar female who enjoys the same interests, for relationship and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430993
MALE 66, agnostic, council flat in 4 Oaks, seeks female, must be 1/2 stone or less, and know how to look after a man. Text only. Mailbox No: 6215955
LOVING caring, tactile man looking for petite mid 40s lady, for fun times with a friendship together. Text only replies. Box No: 4411818

COLIN, 51, caring, loving, seeks caring, loving, cuddly, large lady, 50-60, for LTR, love, romance. Must like kisses, cuddles and holding hands. Text only replies. Box No: 6154531
MALE, 50s slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for an attractive slim lady to call his own. Text only replies. Box No: 6223970
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RAF runners fly to a record relay run

RUNNERS have smashed a relay world record by more than four hours at RAF Cosford. The challenge saw 100 members of the RAF clock up consecutive 10 kilometre runs on the athletics track at the air force base in 64 hours, 36 minutes and 22 seconds.

The previous record was set in Palos Heights in Illinois, in June, 2015 at 69 hours, six minutes and 52 seconds.

Servicemen and women are now waiting with bated breath for the Guinness World Record adjudicators to verify their attempt. Runners from air force bases across the UK descended on Shropshire for the attempt.

The final 10k leg was run by senior aircraftsman Michael Kallenberg, the venture's chief organiser. He said: "It has been a long three or four days, but we're all delighted that we've broken the record. I was quite lucky doing the final leg, I got to enjoy it and lap it up as it were."

"I just thought, with it being the 100th anniversary of the RAF, it would be nice to set a new world record in celebration."

Howzat! New cricket pitches now on way

THREE all-weather cricket practice pitches and a basketball court are to be created as part of a £150,000 new sports centre.

Wolverhampton Council is working with the England and Wales Cricket Board on the scheme for Peace Green, which is off the Dunstall Road, Dunstall Hill.

Work is due to start over the next few weeks and it is hoped that the facilities will be ready in September.

Artificial cricket wickets are also set to be installed at East Park, Claregate Playing Fields, Fowlers Park, Newbridge Playing Fields, King George V Playing Fields in Wednesfield, Goodyear park off the Stafford Road and Ward Street in Bilston.

Councillor Hazel Malcolm, the council's cabinet member for public health, said: "These facilities will have a major role to play in improving health and wellbeing."

Back in best shape for this fight – Davis

BIRMINGHAM super bantamweight, Sean 'Showtime' Davis, is looking forward to his ring return. Davis, is set to fight on BCB Promotions Emerging Stars card on Saturday, June 9.

The Brummie boxer has been in a number of high profile bouts, including fights for the WBC International Super Bantamweight Title and BBBofC British Super Bantamweight Title, and is looking forward to stepping back in the squared circle.

"I am feeling great and I am back in the best shape possible," he said. "It has been a long time since my last fight and I am really happy to get back in the ring. The work rate for me has always been very high but I seemed to have found a new level of fitness."

Davis made the difficult decision to move trainers from Peter Christie to Shaun Cogan earlier this year. It was a tough call to make for the likeable 26-year-old, having been with Christie since childhood. However, he is enjoying life under his new mentor.



MVP Olivia Gonsalves scores for Olympia Cannock



Athalia Imbanga bursts through for Cannock

Girl power! Team gets hands on national title

SPORTING FEATURE

By Joseph Masi

"It is really difficult to win the national two years ago so this really is a fantastic achievement."

A TALENTED handball team is celebrating after being crowned national champions for the second successive year.

Cannock Olympia reclaimed their under-19s national handball title after beating Stroud at the Derby Arena.

The victory is the latest in a long line of success for the team which is coached by Maria Moore.

Over the past few years, the Olympia under-19s team have reached 10 national finals, winning eight of them.

Olivia Gonsalves, Athalia Imbanga, Ellie Smith, Annie Hicklin and Mia Williams all played starring roles in their latest triumph – with Imbanga netting in the final 20 seconds to secure the 24-23 win over Stroud.

And club chairman Nenad 'Pop' Popovic believes the girls' success will never be repeated.

Special

"It is really difficult to win the national two years ago so this really is a fantastic achievement," he said. "The success of this team will never be repeated."

"It is special because all the girls attend Cardinal Griffin Catholic College except for one who is from Sutton Coldfield."

"They have now played in 10 national finals, winning eight of them and have only ever lost one game in their age category."

"The girls are a credit to Cannock and the area." Following the performance at the Derby Arena,



The Olympia team celebrate their success, which follows last year's win

Gonsalves was crowned Most Value Player for the second successive year. And while she is too old to play for the team next year, Popovic isn't ruling out a hat-trick of national titles.

"All but three of the girls are eligible to play for the under-19s next year," he added.

"Some of them are going off to play in the senior for Manchester Hawks."

"It could be a hat-trick of victories but it is going to be very difficult."

"Gonsalves was crowned MVP but she can't play next year because she is too old by three days which she isn't happy about."

"But this is a fantastic team full of talented players so they will give it everything."

Meanwhile, Popovic thanked team sponsor Cameron Homes for the role they have played in the team's success.

"We have all benefited from the support of Cameron Homes who are drivers behind girls' handball in the area," he added.

"Because of all the support they have given us we have been able to grow and attract girls from further afield. We have now got a host of talented youngsters coming through the ranks and they'll ensure the club is successful for many years."

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Sport

Girls keep their hands in
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See page 39



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Tividale are making case in FA appeal

TIVIDALE are appealing to the FA after failing to gain promotion to the Midland League Premier.

The Beeches outfit finished second in the West Midlands Premier last term.

Being runners-up does not usually result in going up but with Ilkeston Town going up from the Midland League Division One – another feeder league – into the Premier as runners-up, Tivi manager Dave King is struggling to find sense in the situation.

“If Ilkeston weren’t going up, we wouldn’t have any grounds to complain about it,” said King. “Because Ilkeston are in there, though, going up, we have a case.”

“Them getting promoted and not us doesn’t make sense. It just doesn’t seem right to me.”

What particularly grates on King and his Tividale comrades is that they had a higher points-per-game ratio than Ilkeston – 2.34 to 2.26.

“There is an appeal now, that is going to happen. It’s disappointing, but it is what it is,” said King. “Hopefully we’ll win the appeal and go up – and deservedly so. The lads will really be gutted if it doesn’t happen now.”

Wolverhampton Sporting won the West Midlands Premier in fantastic fashion and have had their spot in the Midland Premier confirmed. Also in the Midland Premier will be Walsall Wood, bouncing back at the first attempt. Those remaining in the West Midlands Premier include Cradley Town, Dudley Sports and Dudley Town.

Wright hits 42 but Himley must settle for a losing draw

HIMLEY’S losing draw at Bridgnorth sees them 13 points behind Shifnal and Tamworth in the Birmingham League Division One, while Halesowen’s win at home to Bromsgrove leaves their Worcs neighbours in the bottom three.

Stourbridge are four points behind following a five-wicket win at neighbours and old rivals Old Hill. Stourbridge dismissed the home side for 115 with Ravi Nagra hitting 32 for Old Hill, Dan Such taking 6-20 in 13.4 overs. Jitesh Jivan-Patel picked up 3-35 for Stourbridge. Marvarick Perry scored a breezy unbeaten 37 for Stourbridge who raced to victory after a slow start.

Himley skipper Greg Wright hit 42 in his side’s innings of 146-9 at Bridgnorth but the home side’s response was cut short by 20 overs due to rain. Bridgnorth finished on 117-9. Despite three wickets apiece for Stuart Wedge, Chris Boroughs and Jamie Turner, a faster run-rate gave Bridgnorth the winning draw.

A superb innings of 145 in 165 balls from Ed Kilbee eased Halesowen to an imposing 265-9 against Bromsgrove who were dismissed for 187.

Lions coach hits out over Osama decision

LIONS Boxing Club coach Kevin Dillon is hoping talented teenager Osama Mohamed gets another shot at representing England after a controversial end to his European Schoolboy title hopes.

The 14-year-old from Dudley saw his championship bid ended at the quarter-final stage by Russian Aleksei Zhebnunov.

But having watched a stream of the fight from Bulgaria, Dillon believes the youngster was ‘robbed’ of a place in the last four.

“It was a terrible decision,” said Dillon. “Micky

Discroll, one of the England coaches, said Osama won every round.

“He couldn’t believe the decision, even the crowd booed when it was announced.

“He was robbed. Osama had been on the front foot and pretty much dominated all three rounds.

“There are no grounds for appeal and I think that is something that needs to be looked at.

“I’m really gutted for Osama because he had done so well and worked really hard to get this opportunity.

“But it has been a great experience for him, going abroad and listening to other coaches.

“He will have learned a lot from it and everyone at the club are very proud of him.

“He has made a good impression with the England coaches and hopefully this won’t be the last time he is involved with them.

Mohamed will be looking to further enhance his reputation when he forms part of a four-strong team from Lions that will take part in the Monkstown Cup in Ireland next month.

CRADLEY BOOST TROPHY HOPES

CRADLEY revived their National Trophy hopes by securing maximum points from their 57-32 win at Buxton.

Sunday’s victory moved the Motor Market Heathens back level with group leaders Coventry as they bounced back from the previous Monday’s defeat by the Bees.

Despite only being with four of their own riders, the Heathens took advantage of an under-strength Hitmen side whose problems grew as the meeting progressed. Already without broken ankle victim Connor Coles, heat-leader David Wallinger then pulled out of the fixture in the build-up while reserve Lewis Whitmore was withdrawn after heat eight with an arm injury.

Heathens got their noses in front as early as heat two when Jason Edwards and local lad James Chattin combined for a 4-2 in the re-run after Whitmore had been disqualified for the hosts after sliding off in the initial staging. Kyle Bickley gated in the third and new signing Chris Widman got by Sam Woolley for a second successive 4-2. Alfie Bowtell and Edwards got the better of inexperienced Kieran Douglas and established an early eight-point lead.

The Derbyshire outfit hit back with a maximum in the next race as Ben Wilson made it two race wins out of two while Heathens guest Joe Lawlor couldn’t find a way past skipper Tom Woolley.

Heathens stamped their authority on the fixture as Bickley and Widman bagged a 5-1 in the seventh before Bowtell and Edwards won a 5-0 after lapping Sam Woolley who had remounted after falling. That opened up a 13-point lead for the Heathens who took the next four race wins.

Heat 12 saw Bickley maintain his unbeaten start as and the Heathens rounded off in style with one final 5-1 as Bickley tucked in for a paid maximum behind Bowtell.

Manager Will Pottinger said: “It was important to get back to winning ways and sets us up nicely for the return at Monmore.”

Karate ace takes on world’s best



Dudley Shukokai with guest Clive Allen at new premises on Delph Industrial Estate in Brierley Hill

KARATE ace Mandie Read is hoping to celebrate a new home with success on the international stage.

Read runs Dudley Shukokai, who have just acquired their own premises after spending 18 years based at The Thorns in Brierley Hill.

Sixth-dan black belt Read is also the founder of All Styles Karate Alliance Great Britain, who will be competing in the WUKF World Karate Championships in Scotland next month.

The 53-year-old will be hoping to guide them to victory in Dundee between June 14 and 17, and build on their performance in Romania last

year, where they came 23rd out of 50 teams.

Read, who will take to the mat herself as she bids to add to her world bronze medal, has competed and been a teacher in the sport for 32 years and is targeting a top 15 finish.

She said: “Our members have worked so hard since they came back from Romania. It has been non-stop, sometimes seven days a week. Especially for some of my younger squad members I have got high hopes. We are targeting a top 15 finish this time round.”

Basketball star Clive Allen opened the new premises on Delph Industrial Estate.

Amy wins bronze for indoor row

MEMBERS of Dudley Rowing club entered the Be-Row indoor rowing championships in Solihull recently and came away with a bronze medal.

Eighteen-year-old Amy Turner (pictured), accompanied by her father Phil who also entered, came third in her category to win bronze.

Her father came seventh in his category. Fifteen-year-old Ben Nolan came fourth in his category.

This event is held every year and organised by Birmingham University in conjunction with Birmingham Rowing Club. It is open to any club and gym in the Midlands who use rowing machines, and attracts over a hundred participants.

Dudley Rowing Club was formed three years ago. Based at the watersports centre in Netherton, the club meets every Tuesday morning and evening, and Sunday afternoon. The club is open to any age group, including retired people. There is a qualified coach present at these sessions.

Three youngsters from the club will be competing in the Bridgnorth Regatta on Saturday, June 9. This will be the first time that Dudley Rowing club have entered an organised regatta, and for these youngsters the first time they have faced competition.



Amy Turner

Capital experience for the DK runners

ATHLETES from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club ventured to the capital at the weekend for some quality racing rubbing shoulders with the cream of the British road running scene.

Dave Norman on Sunday took part in the Westminster Mile, where he took part in the British Masters Mile Championships finishing in 5.29 to place 16th in his age group. On Monday a team of six competed in the London Vitality 10000, a race won by Mo Farah in a lightning time of 29.44. Ben Foster of Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers was the first local lad home in 34.28 in 212th place, Dave Norman was first hoop home in 39.28, finishing in 726th place.

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